Sermon Notes for November 10, 2013

The Wonder of Salvation
I Peter 1:10-12

Introduction

Some passages in Scripture are packed with instructions on how we should live. This passage is packed with wonder at what God gives – the gift of our salvation.

I. The Wonder of the Prophets. Verses 10-12

The first word that Peter uses to describe our salvation is grace.

God told the prophets, in advance, what he was going to do.

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” Genesis 3:15

This is the proto-evangelium, the first announcement of the gospel.

There are over 300 prophecies about the Messiah in the Old Testament.

The prophets searched the Scriptures intently and with the greatest care.

What were they trying to find out?

They wanted to know the time and the circumstances when the Messiah would come.

What did the prophets know?

- They knew that God was going to send a Messiah.
- They knew that the Messiah would have to suffer. Isaiah 53
- They knew that he would be glorified.
- They even knew the order – suffering then glory.
- They knew that they were serving us.

“They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance.” Hebrews 11:13

That’s why Jesus said to the disciples, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.” Luke 10:23-24

II. The Wonder of the Preachers. Verse 12

The Holy Spirit makes the preaching of the Gospel effective.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8
The first to declare the good news of the Gospel were the Apostles.

From the time of the Apostles to the present, there has been an unbroken chain of believers who have brought the Gospel to you.

Some paid dearly for their faith. Some lost their lives. Some left home and country. We have gained from their sacrifice.

III. The Wonder of the Angels. Verse 12

“Even angels long to look into these things.”

Why do the angels wonder?

- They see both worlds at the same time.
- They see Jesus, the Son of God, who laid aside his glory in heaven to become a man.
- They have been involved with our salvation all along the way.
- The angels marvel at the mystery of salvation, because there is no salvation for angels spoken of in Scripture.

Conclusion

Our salvation is possible only because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

But today, let’s give thanks to God for the people God used to bring us the Gospel.

Let us follow in their steps to bring the Gospel to those who have never heard it before.