

The Role of the Church in the Community – Part 1

The Restoration of All Things

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. Today we are beginning an exciting series of studies on The Role of the Church in the Community. Our topic today: The restoration of all things.

Scripture Theme Song: It is good to give thanks (Ps. 92:1-4)

- 1) Created in the image of God
 - a) Genesis 1:26-27 – what is the significance of being created in the image of God?
 - b) What did Jesus mean when He said, “He who has seen Me has seen the Father” (Jn. 14:9)?
 - c) Why is it important to always remember that we were created in the image of God?
- 2) Marred by sin
 - a) Genesis 3:8-10—fear
 - b) Genesis 3:12-13—blame
 - c) Genesis 3:16—disruption in relationships
 - d) Genesis 3:17-19—disruption in nature
 - e) What evidence do you see around you of the damage caused by rebellion against God?
- 3) The promise of restoration
 - a) Genesis 3:15
 - b) Leviticus 1:2-4
 - c) 1 Corinthians 5:7
 - d) Acts 3:19-21
 - e) Revelation 21:1-5
- 4) Restoration today
 - a) While ultimate restoration occurs when Christ returns in glory (1 Cor. 15:51-53), and with the creation of a new heavens and a new earth, Jesus is performing a work of restoration even today.
 - b) What texts of Scripture confirm that Jesus is restoring lives even today?
 - i) 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - ii) Galatians 2:20
 - iii) Other texts?
 - c) What stories in the Gospels illustrate Jesus’ work of restoration?
 - d) How have you seen Jesus performing a work of restoration in your own life?
- 5) The role of the church in the work of restoration
 - a) Mark 2:1-12 How does the healing of the paralytic illustrate the role of the church in the work of restoration?
 - b) What other stories in the New Testament illustrate the role of the church in the work of restoration?
 - i) John 6:10-13 – assisting in feeding of 5,000
 - ii) Matthew 10:7-8 – the sending out of the disciples
 - iii) Matthew 25:31-36 – the story of the sheep/goats
 - c) Share a time when you had an opportunity to participate with Jesus in a work of restoration.
 - d) How is your own life impacted when you participate in restoration work?
- f) What is your favorite promise of restoration in the Scriptures?
- g) Why is the promise of restoration so important?