



GOD'S BIG PLAN

RETHINKING DEATH, LIFE, AND ETERNITY

JOHN 12:31-36

PASTOR MIKE FABAREZ

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • April 16 & 17, 2022 • Easter Weekend • Msg. 22-14

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

33 He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. **34** So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?"

35 So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. **36** While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

(ESV)

1. Know _____ (vv.31-32)

2. See _____ (vv.33-34)

3. Don't _____ (vv.35-36)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Genesis 3:1-7**; **1 Peter 5:8-9** and **Revelation 12:9-12**. Consider the damage caused by the "ruler of this world." Why is it helpful and even essential to consider the work of Christ at his first coming as pivotal to the good promised to come in the next world?
2. Read **Romans 5:15-21**. How can this rich theological section of Romans deepen your love for Christ and your confidence in why we Christians are able to stand assured that we are acceptable before our Creator?
3. Read **Romans 8:1-11**. How does full forgiveness in Christ motivate you to fight temptation instead of indulge in sin—as some would expect you to do if you know that you are not going to receive any condemnation because of Christ's death?
4. Read **Hebrews 3:7-13** and **2 Corinthians 6:1-2**. How would you reply to someone who says, "I understand all the reasons I need to respond favorably to Christ, but I think I will do that at some point later in life"?
5. Read **John 3:19-20**; **1 John 1:5-10** and **Ephesians 5:6-11**. Why is there joy in being honest about our sin, sincerely confessing it, and fighting it from day to day?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

April 17th

1Sam.22-24 & Lk.16:1-18

April 18th

1Sam.25-26 & Lk.16:19-31

April 19th

1Sam.27-29 & Lk.17:1-19

April 20th

1Sam.30-31 & Lk.17:20-37

April 21st

2Sam.1-3 & Lk.18:1-17

April 22nd

2Sam.4-6 & Lk.18:18-43

April 23rd

2Sam.7-9 & Lk.19:1-28

April 24th

2Sam.10-12 & Lk.19:29-48

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 17-31 – **God's Payment for Lawbreakers**

Msg. 16-35 – **Astonished at God's Amazing Grace**

Msg. 10-23 – **Perspectives on Fairness, Justice, and Grace**

Msg. 14-10 – **Making Sure We Don't Miss the King**

Msg. 14-55 – **Sin and the Fall**

Msg. 21-22 – **Fighting God**

Msg. 14-09 – **Awaiting the Defeat of Death**

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Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Burroughs, Jeremiah. **Gospel Fear: Developing a Tender Heart that Trembles at the Word of God**. Soli Deo Gloria, 1997.

Duncan, Ligon. **Fear Not: Death and the Afterlife from a Christian Perspective**. Christian Focus, 2008.

Fabarez, Mike. **Getting It Right: The Real Problem & God's Perfect Solution**. Focal Point, 2011.

Jones, Mark. **Knowing Sin: Seeing a Neglected Doctrine**. Moody Publishing, 2022.

Lutzer, Erwin. **The Vanishing Power of Death**. Moody, 2004.

McDowell, Josh. **Did the Resurrection Happen... Really?** Moody Publishing, 2011.

Morgan, Christopher W. and Robert A. Peterson, eds. **Fallen: A Theology of Sin**. Crossway, 2013.

Morris, Leon. **The Atonement: Its Meaning and Significance**. InterVarsity, 1984.

Murray, John. **Redemption Accomplished and Applied**. Eerdmans, 1984.

Owen, John. **Death of Death in the Death of Christ**. Banner of Truth, 1959.

Packer, J. I. and Mark Dever. **In My Place Condemned He Stood**. Crossway Books, 2008.

Piper, John. **What Jesus Demands from the World**. Crossway Books, 2006.

Ryle, R. C. **Repentance**. Amazon Digital Services, Inc. 2012.

Venning, Ralph. **The Sinfulness of Sin**. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1997.