

213-God has a Point of no return-7-30-10

In order to constantly keep His integrity God has a point of no return. He must remain loyal to His extreme limits. There is a time when He says “yes” and that must not change. There is a time when He says “no” and that also must not change. Now that’s as far as you can go either way. His word is forever settled in Heaven. Extreme truth will take you as far as God will go.

God went to the extreme to save us. We must go to the extreme in order to be saved. Luke records the activities of faith needed to perform this Extreme Truth in Luke 24:45-49.

When Adam and Eve fell into sin they were separated from God. They had committed a “thou shalt not.” Their birthright of going to heaven was forfeited. They were lost in sin.

The extreme penalty for sin was one man had to die. But not just any man. He had to be a man without sin. A sinner could not die for the sins of others. He had to be innocent and die for the guilty. Only God could be that man. God went to that extreme.

Jesus is God’s planned intervention in the world.

God made a promise before the world began that He would intervene in our behalf. His love is seen in Calvary.

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

Romans 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope.

We are vain. There is a battle raging between us and Satan. Satan takes advantage of us in this area. He appeals to our vanity. God made us subject to vanity that He might subject us to hope. We are prisoners of hope. We are slaves to hope. “True hope in God” is our only hope. The God who declared the end from the beginning made promise that He would, Himself, come to save us from our sins. This hope draws out our allegiance to Him. This allegiance is much stronger than it would be if we had no battles.

Jesus is God coming into the world to mediate our rights. We were made for eternity to worship Him forever. That was His purpose and pleasure for making us. It is an inheritance to which we have a right. Sin caused us to lose these rights. God became man to restore our rights to heaven. Heaven is our birthright. Heaven is our destiny.

Satan is trying to defeat God’s purpose and destroy His pleasure. God’s pleasure is the redeemed praising Him throughout eternity for what He has done for them. God is just in all He is doing for us. He died for us. He restored our rights to heaven by becoming one of us. He paid the price for our sins. He cleanses us with His blood.

Before Jesus was born this was only a promise waiting to happen. Then, when the fullness of time was come, God put into motion His divine intervention. This moment in the history of man is the center point of the Bible. There is a before, there is an after and there is an exact time. This exact time was the moment Jesus spoke His last words. He gave His apostles their final instructions on the activities of faith to be preached among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

He first told them that His death was necessary to release the power for His salvation. Then He gave them the power-filled words, containing the activities of faith, they were to preach to all nations beginning at Jerusalem. His words are found in Luke 24:45-49. The words He spoke are the following:

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Having spoken these soul-saving words, Jesus sealed that moment of truth forever.

Jesus, as a man, then ascended into heaven opening a door for man to follow through to his long awaited home. The first *man* had arrived in heaven. More men will follow.

This moment in the plan of God was established before the world began and became prophecy fulfilled. None of this can change.

After that moment, time continued with that truth recorded in it. No one can go back and change that. For this reason I submit to you Luke, God’s official recorder of His focus.

God’s official focus is: “that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

You need to become a witness to this life-changing experience. Luke can help you do that.