The Big Picture

*Finding God’s Purposes in 1 Peter*

Pastor Toby • Week 15 • 10/9/2022

**In Need of Rebirth**

1 Peter 1:22-25

We Have a Problem:

* We are spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ because of our \_\_\_\_. (Ephesians 2:1-3, 1 Peter 1:14, 2:11, 1:18)
* We are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from our God. (Isaiah 59:2)
* We are cut off from our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ source. (Ephesians 4:17-18)
* We are destined to be eternally \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Thessalonians 1:9)

God Has Made a Provision:

* God made a way back to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus. (1 Peter 1:18-21, 3:18, Colossians 2:13-14)

Closing Question:

* Have you taken care of your problem through God’s provision? You can do so today!

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Debrief Plan: 10/9/2022

**Icebreakers**:

1. What is your favorite “made up by America” holiday and why? (In other words, not Christmas, New Year’s, Easter, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, or your birthday…)
2. When is your “spiritual rebirth”day? (You can give an estimate if you can’t remember a specific day.) What are some things you could do to celebrate it?

**Sermon Summary**: Humanity has a huge problem – we are all spiritually dead people in need of rebirth. Ignoring this problem could have eternally devastating consequences. Praise God for providing a solution for this problem through the death of Christ!

**Discussion Questions**:

1. **Read Ephesians 2:1-3.** Which of the descriptions of the “spiritually dead” stands out to you as the most interesting? Explain why to your group.
2. **Read Isaiah 59:2**. Have you ever experienced this reality in your personal life? What did (or does) it feel like?
3. **Read Ephesians 4:17-18 & John 1:1-5.** Scripture makes the point that God is the ONLY source of life, but clearly we fallen humans don’t live like that is true. What other things do we turn to for life apart from God? Which ones are YOU particularly susceptible to?
4. **Read 2 Thessalonians 1:9.** Our conception of the sufferings of hell are usually physical (torment, fire, thirst, wailing and gnashing of teeth). Paul in this passage seems to focus on the emotional and spiritual sufferings of hell. Which do you find the most daunting and why is that? (I know, super uplifting question, right?)
5. **Read Colossians 2:13-15.** What emotional reaction do you have to God’s provision for our problem that Paul describes in this passage? What affect might it have on your relationship with God to remember that your sin-debt is nailed to Jesus’s cross?
6. **Read Ephesians 2:4-6.** What insight does Paul give us into God’s motives for providing this solution to our problem? Does it matter what God’s motives are? If so, why does it matter?