

Sermon Title: What we Believe: God Moves

What is your favorite tv channel?

- How many of you put HGTV
- The thing I don't love about HGTV is that most of their shows are the same, people doing renovations or restorations to their homes.

The process is the same on all of those shows:

1. A plan
2. Demolition
3. Rebuild
4. Finishing touches

Today we are finishing up our Sermon series, and looking to the future:

- Spoiler alert: God Wins!

Revelation 21:1-6a

God Renews:

- Why is it important that God is making all things new?
 - Take 5 minutes and look at the world today
 - God changing things should be our one true hope.
- Just take a moment and picture what heaven will be like...

God Restores:

- Restoration means bringing something back to its former glory.
- God is going to make things new not by destroying the old and creating new, but by transforming the old and making it new.

What is God going to restore things back to?

- God is going to restore this world and us back to the time in which there was no sin in the Garden of Eden.
- Genesis 3:8

There is one more aspect to this that we need to talk about, and it is that right now we are in the in-between phase of this work of God.

- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- So, wait is this renewal and restoration happening now or happening in the future? The answer is both.
- Through the process of confession and repentance, God is slowly making us like Jesus Christ, sanctifying us through His Spirit. But that process won't be complete until Jesus comes again.

God Resurrects:

- Resurrection is bringing back to life something that is dead.
- 1 Corinthians 15:20-23
- We experience resurrection in part here on earth.

We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the life everlasting, the renewal of all things, and the restoration of paradise lost, all because of Jesus Christ and what His life, death, resurrection, and return means for those with saving faith!

What does all this mean for us here and now?

1. We need to know what God is doing, and we need to do our part and let Him do His part.
 - a. Christianity is not a self-help religion.
 - b. We don't become more like Christ because of our strength, our intelligence, our sheer will, but we become more like Christ only when we submit.
2. We need to renew our hope in the Lord and not in the things of this world.
 - a. Is your hope for the future in your job, your family, your 401k or your money, your intelligence, your power, your status, your position, your tribe, your ability, your safety or your security, your political party or candidate, or your Lord?
 - b. Now let me be clear, there is nothing morally or ethically wrong with anything on that list. But we need to be honest about what our ultimate and eternal hope lies in. Because what we hope in drives everything that we do.
 - c. What choices do you make on a daily/weekly/monthly/hourly basis that show your trust in the Lord?

Challenges:

1. Go back over this sermon series and review all that we have learned about God.
2. Think about how God wants you to live your life right now, knowing that He is going to restore and renew all things.
 - a. This doesn't mean that you can stop caring about the environment, it doesn't mean that you should start playing human frogger on route 71, and it doesn't mean that you don't have to take care of everything God has given you to manage.
 - b. Think about what God is telling you to renew and restore in your life.
3. Take time to see what your hope truly lies in.
 - a. This week take a look at what you do, and what motivates what you do, and you will find patterns that will tell you what your ultimate hope is.

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Scripture passages to go up on the Screen:

Revelation 21:1-6a - Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

Genesis 3:8 - ⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 - ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.