

NO LONGER A VICTIM

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. 2 And I thought the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive. 3 But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun. 4 Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work come from a man's envy of his neighbor. This also is vanity and a striving after wind. 5 The fool folds his hands and eats his own flesh. 6 Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind. 7 Again, I saw vanity under the sun: 8 one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, "For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy business. 9 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! 11 Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? 12 And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken. 13 Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice. 14 For he went from prison to the throne, though in his own kingdom he had been born poor. 15 I saw all the living who move about under the sun, along with that youth who was to stand in the king's place. 16 There was no end of all the people, all of whom he led. Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and a striving after wind.

We find relief from being a lonely victim of this world by knowing the joy of a redeemed community in Christ

1. Christ Gives Us True Relief From the Lonely Discomfort of Oppression.

Ecclesiastes 4:1-3, 2 Corinthians 7:10, Matthew 27:1-5, John 10:10-11 Hebrews 10:34-35 For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew

that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. 35 Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.

How does Christ give you true relief from the real hurt of oppression?

2. Christ Gives us True Relief From the Lonely Labor of Envy.

Ecclesiastes 4:4-6, Prov 6:34, 14:30, 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12, 1 Cor 10:3.

Do you see envy negatively affecting your life? If so – where?

3. Christ Gives us Relief From the Lonely Pursuit of Success.

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12, Psalm 127:2, Philippians 2:1-4

How do your goals compromise your contentment in Christ?

4. Christ Gives us Relief From the Lonely Result of Fickleness.

Ecclesiastes 4:13-16. Ephesians 2:12-19, Romans 8:31-39

How does being in the family of Christ change your view of being a victim?

Church Announcements

- New Wednesday Series – “Christianity at Least” Starting 10 June.
- Tuesday special church prayer time: 8:30pm Zoom. “Pray for One Another.”
- Sunday School: children’s classes: 9:30am Zoom.
- Ladies Discipleship (Motivations book) Saturday June 13th 10am at the church.
- Men’s Discipleship – see your leaders.
- Church re-opening (tentative) June 14.

Special Request

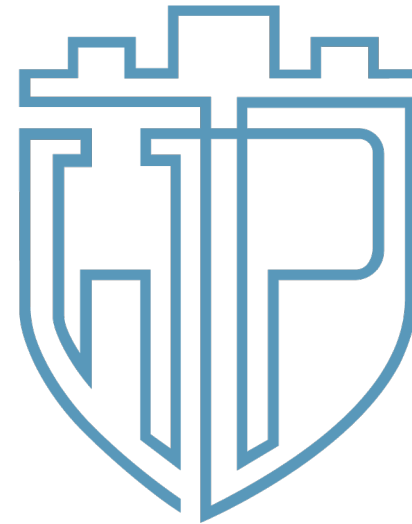
- Pray for wisdom, care and loving fellowship as we look to reopen.
- Pray for our deacons as they manage the church’s finances
- Pray for Mike and Leslie Riddle in creation ministry

Giving Information

Traditional Giving: A box is located at the rear of the auditorium.

Online Giving: Visit www.HPBaptist.org/give and click the “Give” button to setup an account on Planning Center.

Text Giving: Text your gift amount to 84321 and follow the prompts.



TO PLEASE CHRIST
TO PREACH CHRIST
TO BECOME MORE LIKE
CHRIST

HYDE PARK BAPTIST
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