

SERMON NOTES

National Presbyterian Church
David Renwick, January 19, 2014

Series: The Great Ends of the Church

Good News for You!

Luke 4:16-21; Ephesians 2:1-10

GREAT ENDS OF THE CHURCH

1. **The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind**
2. The Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God
3. The Maintenance of Divine Worship
4. The Preservation of the Truth
5. The Promotion of Social Righteousness
6. and the Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World.

A Few Terms:

1. **Good News:** What we do for God? OR What God does for us?
2. **Savior:** The right helper *for* the absolutely helpless.
3. **Salvation:** The right help *from* the right person *for* the absolutely helpless
4. **Grace:** the unmerited, undeserved attitudes and actions of God on our behalf.
5. **Cheap Grace** (Dietrich Bonhoeffer): the inability to see that the gift of God's Grace, like the reception of any great gift, necessarily evokes a response from the receiver.
6. **Repentance:** The multi-faceted necessary response to the Gift of Grace.
At the least, repentance involves *Gratitude* (a "thank you note"), *Sorrow for causing pain to another*, and *Change in behavior*.
7. **Salvation From What?**
At the least from: Death (*spiritual, physical*), Sin (*willfulness or weakness; intentional or unintentional*), Meaninglessness, Hopelessness, Loneliness; now, and for all eternity.

John Calvin

Institutes of the Christian Religion 3:114

Jesus promises the inheritance of the skies to none other than those who, with good works, aim at the prize of the heavenly calling.

The source of salvation flows from a deeper spring:

Calling them "*Blessed of my Father*" (Matthew 25: 34), Jesus reminds them that their blessing started from the free favor of God.