

DECEMBER 28, 2025

REDEEMER WEEKLY

REDEEMER CHURCH OF PIKETON, OHIO

-THE MORNING MESSAGE-

DEATH DESTROYED BY DEATH

HEBREWS 2:10-18



10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. 11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, 12 saying,
"I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."

13 And again,
"I will put my trust in him."

And again,
"Behold, I and the children God has given me."

14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. 16 For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The Epistle to the Hebrews was written to weary believers tempted to draw back and seek stability elsewhere. Into that weariness, the Spirit speaks with clarity and power: Christ is better. Better than angels, priests, sacrifices, or anything else that might compete for our confidence.

Hebrews 2 confronts us with a truth that may sound surprising at first. It was fitting that God would perfect the Author of our salvation through suffering. Christ's suffering was not accidental or unfortunate. It was necessary according to the wisdom of God. Through the cross, God brings many sons and daughters to glory.

Salvation is more than rescue from judgment. It is adoption into God's family and a journey toward glory. The Son of God took on flesh and blood, entered fully into our condition, and through His death destroyed the power of death itself. By dying, Christ freed His people from lifelong slavery to the fear of death.

Because He was made like us in every respect, Christ is a merciful and faithful High Priest. He made full satisfaction for sin and now helps those who are tempted. He is not ashamed to call us brothers.

Here is the gospel according to Hebrews 2: a suffering Savior, a united family, a defeated enemy, and a faithful High Priest who will bring His people safely home.

"Behold, I and the children God has given me." - JB

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THE LIGHT HAS COME

“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.” - Isaiah 9:2



GREG FLANNERY

’Tis the season for family, food, and celebration. For some, this time of year stirs a sense of joy, peace, and togetherness. Others may even feel a renewed awareness of spiritual things and give some acknowledgment to the baby Jesus lying in a manger. Yet for many, this season is marked not by cheer but by sadness, loneliness, or even deep depression.

And still, whether one experiences joy or sorrow, this season proclaims a single, unshakable truth: Light has come into the darkness. That reality makes this a season of great hope.

In Scripture, darkness is not merely ignorance or moral confusion. It is covenantal separation, death, and alienation from God. The world Christ entered was a world under condemnation, a world under the ministry of death, brought about by the holy Law of God which sinners could not keep. Humanity lived in darkness, awaiting redemption. When the Light entered that darkness, life replaced death and truth dispelled the gloom.

The incarnation of Christ did not end at the manger. The Light that entered the world at Bethlehem continued its saving work through Christ’s ministry, His cross, His resurrection, and the establishment of the new covenant. In all of this, He fulfilled everything written in the Law and the Prophets concerning Himself.

Isaiah foretold this reality with clarity and hope:

“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.” (Isaiah 9:2)

This darkness was covenantal separation caused by sin. Israel was physically alive yet spiritually dead, separated from God under a broken covenant. The incarnation of Christ marked the shining of covenantal restoration.

Again, Isaiah declares:

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.” (Isaiah 60:1-3)

This is covenantal language describing restoration, visibility, and the return of God’s glorious presence among His people. The Light would come, and the glory of the Lord would rise.

Christ entered this world to fully expose darkness and to bring eternal life where death once reigned. The comforts of the season, gifts, gatherings, and cherished traditions will soon fade into memory. Nothing in this physical life remains unchanged. Consider Christmases from five or ten years ago. How many loved ones are no longer present today?

Enjoy the blessings of life while you can, but remember they are temporary. There is, however, an eternal peace for all who desire it, reconciliation between God and man for all who will receive it, and lasting rest in Christ for all who are weary and burdened by sin. The true gift given to mankind is this: Light has come into the darkness.

And that Light did not depart. Christ will never leave nor forsake any who come to Him in faith and hope.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Church Life News

(DV)



Blessing Box Food Drive

Please bring in non-perishable foods for donation each Sunday as we stock up our Free Store Blessing Box to help families in need.

Pastor Keith Preaching

Sunday, January 18, 2025, Pastor Keith Boothe will be preaching during the morning worship service. Please be in prayer for this service.

Visit the Church Website!

Visit our website at www.RedeemerPiketon.org for Bible study resources, past sermon and teaching videos, teaching series, articles written by our church teaching team, and so much more. New articles added regularly. Share the website with friends and family as a "go to" Gospel resource!

The Church at Worship

Sunday December 28, 2025

11:30 AM



Opening Songs

Pastoral Prayer

Keith Boothe

Psalm Reading

Greg Flannery

Song

Sermon

Jason Boothe

Closing Prayer

Keith Boothe

Fellowship Dinner in Annex following the service. Everyone is welcome!

Nicene Creed

325 A.D.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



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