

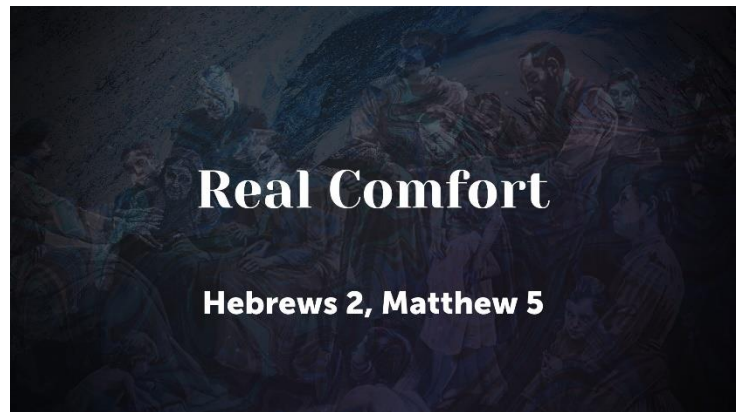
# “Real Comfort”

~ Hebrews 2, Matthew 5

Sermon Series: Epiphany

February 2, 2020

~ Pastor Joshua Reifsteck



## 1. Into a world of iniquity, we promise real justice.

<sup>24</sup> But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

<sup>21</sup> “I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup> Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. <sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

*(Amos 5:24, 21–22)*

## 2. Into a world of despair, we promise real hope.

<sup>21</sup> But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: <sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup> they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

<sup>16</sup> He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes; <sup>17</sup> my soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is; <sup>18</sup> so I say, “My endurance has perished; so has my hope from the LORD. <sup>19</sup> Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! <sup>20</sup> My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me.

*Lamentations 3:21–24, 16–20)*

## 3. Into a world of violence, we promise real peace.

... <sup>3</sup> and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore...

<sup>6</sup> For you have rejected your people, the house of Jacob... <sup>7</sup> Their land is filled with silver and gold, and there is no end to their treasures; their land is filled with horses, and there is no end to their chariots. <sup>8</sup> Their land is filled with idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their own fingers have made.

*(Isaiah 2:3–4, 6-8)*

## 4. Into a world of loneliness, we promise God with us.

... <sup>14</sup> Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

<sup>13</sup> And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also?”

*(Isaiah 7:14, 13)*