

The Concurrently Companion



Episode 28: Seeing through the Redemptive Narrative (part 2)

Topic Introduction

How do the final two points of the Redemptive Narrative inform not only the way we encounter stories in the news, but also the way we look at all of life? On to the final two chapters (“further up and further in!”).

Discussion

Key terms and phrases: *the Image of God, union with Christ, posse non peccare, non posse non peccare, righteousness, the “already-but-not-yet” or “the now-and-the-not-yet,” redemption, reconciliation, restoration*

Questions to ask your kids and students

- » Where and when did God proclaim that creation was “very good”? What came before? What came after?
- » Who bears the image of God? Make this answer as big and complete as you can, running it through the four chapters or lenses of the Redemptive Narrative.
- » Who is *the* Image of God? What does that mean for all image-bearers? (This question helps fill in any gaps left in the answer to the previous question).
- » What did Jesus do (three points) for humanity?
 - Lived a perfect life
 - Died a perfect death
 - Conquered sin & death: proved His power over life & death through His resurrection
- » What does “reconciliation” mean within the redemptive narrative?
- » What is the work of the Spirit in us, now that we have our new identity in Christ? What word or words do we use when talking about the Spirit’s work? What fruit can we expect from His work? How does the Redemptive Narrative help us understand His work more fully?
- » If the Redemptive Narrative were a map, where would the “you are here” dot sit for us in our time of history?
- » How does our place on the map affect our view of all that has gone before us in the narrative of scripture? Choose a couple of scripture passages (consider the book of Ruth, the Psalms, Isaiah, Hosea) and think of them through the lens of redemption.
- » What does it look like and feel like to live in the tension of the “already but not yet”?
- » What work does the Lord have for us in His world as we await His second and final coming?
- » What does it mean to have been given a “ministry of reconciliation” and how does it look in action?
- » When we tell His story to others, what must we keep in mind?

Scriptural Anchors/Provision

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on Earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” — Matthew 28:18-20

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. — 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

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. 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.” And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” — Revelation 21:3-5

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