

Common Ground Café

Sermon Discussion Guide

Sunday, January 19, 2020



Fear Misplaced Fear

Revelation 6:9-17

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Get to Know You

What are you most afraid of: spiders, snakes, heights, etc.?

Study the Book

Read Revelation 6:9-17

What did the four horsemen bring as they rode across the earth?

What did John see after the opening of the fifth seal in verse 9?

Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.

Were you aware or not aware of the current persecution that believers are facing in the world today?

"I'm not claiming we're in the closing years of human history...but Christian persecution will rise and fall and rise and fall throughout human history. In the closing years, it will finally rise like the great swell of a tsunami as it approaches the shore."

Pastor Tom

When John reported that he saw the souls of slain believers, we can recognize their:

1. Value to God

Where were the souls of the martyrs?

Why is this location significant? How does it communicate value?

2. Comfort from God.

What modern day example of the white robe did Pastor Tom provide in his sermon? Who gave it to them?

3. Reassurance by God.

What did they cry out to God in verse 10? How long were they to wait?

Read Matthew 10:28

How does Revelation 6:9-17 show Matthew 10:28 to be true?

What John sees at the breaking of the fifth seal should make us unafraid of those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul. What John sees at the breaking of the sixth seal should make us rightly afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Taken together, these two very different scenes share the same truth: Fear misplaced fear.

If you're more afraid of what people think of you than what God thinks of you, you have misplaced fear.

Group Application Discussion

How can God's valuing, comforting, and reassuring the believers in the vision provide comfort and inspiration for us today?

Why is it a good thing to yield ourselves to a God who is frighteningly holy and altogether good?

Personal Reflection and Application

Are you more afraid of what people think than what God thinks of you?

While you may say, "Generally no," are there specific areas in your life in which you are more fearful of what other people think?