

Living to Leave a Legacy

Christ Community Church

October 6, 2013

Core Value 7: We purpose to establish a Kingdom legacy for generations to come.

Visual of Mall map: It doesn't matter where everything else is, unless you know where you are.

Brief map of history (Sons of Issachar – I Chron 12:32, understanding the times and what to do)

Genesis 1:28 NLT

"Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it.

Genesis 49:10 NLT

The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from his descendants, until the coming of the one to whom it belongs, the one whom all nations will honor.

Psalms 2:7-8 Holman Study Bible

I will declare the Lord's decree: He said to Me, "You are My Son, today I have become Your Father. Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your inheritance and the ends of the earth Your possession.

Isaiah 9:6, 7 KJV

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

Daniel 7:13,14

As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal – it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

Matthew 26:63,64

But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I demand in the name of the living God – tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus replied, "You have said it. And in the future you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God's right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

I Corinthians 15:24,25

After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having destroyed every ruler and authority and power. For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet.

Hebrews 10:12,13

But our High Priest offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. There he waits until his enemies are humbled and made a footstool under his feet.

1. Legacy-minded people have a hope-filled view of the future

Matthew 16:18 The Message

This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out.

We actually live Future – Present – Past (example of picnic lunch)

Graduation from Oberlin: George McGovern's speech

The orthodox Christian Church has been generally optimistic in her view of the power of the Gospel to convert the nations... Even more significantly, the universal belief in the coming victory can be seen in the action of the Church in history. Christians never supposed that their high calling was to work for some sort of *détente* with the Enemy. "Pluralism" was never regarded by the orthodox as a worthy goal. The Church has always recognized that God sent His only begotten Son in order to redeem the world, and that He will be satisfied with nothing less than what He paid for.

When the early missionaries from the East first ventured into the demonized lands of our pagan forefathers, they had not the slightest intention of developing peaceful coexistence with warlocks and their terrorizing deities. When St. Boniface came up against Thor's sacred oak tree in his mission to the heathen Germans, he simply chopped it down and built a chapel out of the wood. Thousands of Thor-worshippers, seeing that their god had failed to strike St. Boniface with lightning, converted to Christianity on the spot. As for St. Boniface, he was unruffled by the incident. He knew that there was only one true God of thunder – the Triune Jehovah. There is nothing strange about this. The attitude of Hope, the expectation of victory, is an absolutely fundamental characteristic of Christianity. The advance of the Church through the ages is inexplicable apart from it – just as it is also inexplicable apart from the fact that the Hope is *true*, the fact that Jesus Christ *has* defeated the powers and *shall* reign "from the River to the ends of the earth." (Psalm 72:8)

David Chilton: Days of Vengeance

We must settle in our hearts and minds once and for all time that Christ is NOW conquering, Christ is NOW reigning, and that Christ is NOW commanding the course of human history.

The fact is that you will not work for the transformation of society if you don't believe society can be transformed. You will not try to build a Christian civilization if you do not believe that a Christian civilization is possible. It was the utter confidence in the victory of the Christian faith that gave courage to the early missionaries, who fearlessly strode into the farthest reaches of pagan Europe as if they were at the head of an army, preaching the gospel, driving out demons, smashing idols, converting whole kingdoms, bringing vast multitudes to their knees at the feet of Christ. They *knew* they would win. They could give up their lives in the struggle, certain that history was on their side, that Satan's domains were being shattered daily, his illegitimate hold weakening and slipping with every advance of the Christian forces. They were not in the least bit pessimistic about the power of the gospel. God honored their faith in His promises, and enabled them to lay the groundwork for a Christendom which will someday embrace the entire world.

David Chilton: Paradise Restored

Article: Christian Faith Plus Chinese Productivity

David Bryant, author of [Christ Is All!](#) – I follow Jesus today with the exciting conviction that what He will be Lord of ultimately He is Lord of even now; that I am being led by Him in triumphal procession today toward the Grand Finale over which He will fully triumph at The End!

2. Legacy-minded people have the ability to see beyond the next generation

II Timothy 2:2

You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

In a May 12, 1780 letter to his wife Abigail, John Adams wrote a little about the beauty of France, but then explained that he didn't have time to pursue them as he wished:

I must study Politicks and War that my sons may have liberty to study ~~Painting and Poetry~~ Mathematicks and Philosophy. My sons ought to study Mathematicks and Philosophy, Geography, natural History, Naval Architecture, navigation, Commerce and Agriculture, in order to give their Children a right to study Painting, Poetry, Musick, Architecture, Statuary, Tapestry and Porcelaine.

Posterity! you will never know how much it cost the present generation to preserve your freedom! I hope you will make a good use of it. If you do not, I shall repent in Heaven that I ever took half the pains to preserve it. (Letter to Abigail Adams (27 April 1777), published as Letter CXI in *Letters of John Adams, Addressed to His Wife* (1841) edited by Charles Francis Adams, p. 218)

How far does the future stretch in our imagination?

Six times in the Old Testament God is identified as the One who lavishes His love and faithfulness on a thousand generations (Exodus 20:6 and 34:7, Deuteronomy 5:10 and 7:9, I Chronicles 16:15, Psalms 105:8).

A generation is typically reckoned to be 40 years

The Bible records roughly 6,000 years of human history.

From the time of Abraham roughly 4,000 years have passed.

Abraham forward represents only about 100 generations.

That could leave 900 generations, or roughly 36,000 years yet in the plan of God for the increase of His kingdom in the earth.

3. Legacy-minded people make provision for those who will follow – invite Communion servers to prepare

Proverbs 13:22

Good people leave an inheritance to their grandchildren, but the sinner's wealth passes to the godly.

Founded in 1379, New College, Oxford is one of the oldest Oxford colleges. It has, like other colleges, a great dining hall with huge oak beams across the top, as large as two feet square, and forty-five feet long each.

A century ago, some busy entomologist went up into the roof of the dining hall with a penknife and poked at the beams and found that they were full of beetles. This was reported to the College Council, which met the news with some dismay, beams this large were now very hard, if not impossible to come by. "Where would they get beams of that caliber?" they worried.

One of the Junior Fellows stuck his neck out and suggested that there might be some worthy oaks on the College lands. These colleges are endowed with pieces of land scattered across the country which are run by a college Forester. They called in the College Forester, who of course had not been near the college itself for some years, and asked him if there were any oaks for possible use. He pulled his forelock and said, "Well sirs, we was wonderin' when you'd be askin'."

Upon further inquiry it was discovered that when the College was founded, a grove of oaks had been planted to replace the beams in the dining hall when they became beetly, because oak beams

always become beetly in the end. This plan had been passed down from one Forester to the next for over five hundred years saying "You don't cut them oaks. Them's for the College Hall."
Introduce Hebrews 11 – the Hall of Fame of Faith

Hebrews 12:1-3 The Message

Do you see what this means – all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? (NLT – Since **we are surrounded** by such a huge crowd of witnesses...) It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running – and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed – that exhilarating finish in and with God – he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And NOW he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. *That* will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

Jesus Himself made provision for us: we know it as Communion – the opportunity to feast at His table upon His very body and blood – to receive His very life within us!

Hebrews 12:22-24 NLT

No, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless thousands of angels in a joyful gathering. You have come to the assembly of God's firstborn children, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God himself, who is the judge over all things. You have come to the spirits of the righteous ones in heaven who have now been made perfect. You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel.

Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21 NLT

Now may the God of peace-
Who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus,
The great Shepherd of the sheep,
And ratified an eternal covenant with his blood –
May he equip you with all you need for doing his will.
May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him.
All glory to him forever and ever! Amen.