

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 14, 2021

The Gospel writer John frequently used verbs that are in the present tense. So, we read: “Whoever believes in him will not be condemned but whoever does not believe **has already been condemned**” ...

John uses the literary term – “realized Eschatology”. As eschatology refers to a theology that expresses what is to come, what is hoped for, a “realized” eschatology speaks of a belief of a future that already IS. For example, “But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as DONE [completed] in God.

So, what does that mean for us? Perhaps we might ask, “Do we live the truth? NOW, do we belong to the light NOW? Do we practice our value of belief NOW, today? Or do we rely in our salvation in a future? A God who lives in the future? A redemption that we must wait for.

John would say “No”. But we must practice a behavior that already believes that redemption is a NOW event. What if we lived NOW as though we are already WITH God, a God who is leading us, walking with us to the LIGHT. Do we think that God is waiting for us to stumble? To sin?

What kind of a God is that? God/the Christ is redeeming us NOW, with every moment that we live. Whether we are in the dark, or in the light. Christ is redeeming us NOW.

“Whoever LIVES the truth comes to the light, so that [our] works may be clearly seen as DONE IN GOD. REJOICE!