THE GREATEST MESSAGE EVER HEARD

I. God is a powerful God.
   A. He is the Creator of all things.
      2. Exodus 20:11.
   B. He created everything out of nothing (Hebrews 11:3).
      1. The word “framed” means to fit with, to adjust with great wisdom and ownership.
      2. “Word” means to speak.
      3. God fit the world with wisdom by His spoken word.
   C. Can you imagine creating something just by speaking it into existence?
   D. This is exactly what God did (Psalm 33:9; 148:5).
   E. Now, everything remains by that same word (2 Peter 3:4-8).

II. God is a holy God.
   A. He is holy in every aspect of His nature (Isaiah 6:1-6).
   B. His holiness renders Him unable to look upon evil (Habakkuk 1:13).
   C. He demands holiness from His creation (1 Peter 1:15-16).
      1. We may ask in what are we to be holy?
      2. Remember that God is holy in His entire nature - not one thing about Him is a bit unholy.
      3. Therefore, all parts of our lives, everything we do is to be holy, without evil and sin.

III. Man is not holy.
   A. Ecclesiastes 7:20.
   B. Isaiah 64:6.
   C. Romans 3:23.
      1. There is not a sinless person.
      2. Man, by himself, when having learned good from evil, eventually sins and becomes unholy.

IV. God is a righteous God who demands punishment for sin.
   A. Our sins, or unholiness, cause us to be separated from God (Isaiah 59:1-2).
   B. The initial consequence was the onset of physical death (Genesis 3:23).
   C. Ultimately, sin brings about spiritual death (Romans 6:23).
   D. God has prepared a place for the unholy and sinful - hell.
      1. Originally, it was prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41).
      2. It is called the second death (Revelation 20:14-15).
      3. It is a place of eternal torment (Revelation 14:11).
      4. It is a place where the fire is not quenched and the worm does not die (Mark 9:43-48).
      5. It is for everyone that does not know God or who does not obey the gospel of Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:6-9).

V. God is a loving God.
   A. God wants no one to perish (2 Peter 3:9 - “perish” means to be destroyed;
1 Timothy 2:4 - “all” in both verses literally means anyone and everyone).

B. Because of His love, God provided a substitute for our sins (1 John 4:9-10 - propitiation carries the idea of appeasement; Galatians 1:3-5).

C. Jesus not only died, but He is risen from the dead.
   1. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4.
   2. Romans 10:9-10.

D. What Jesus came to do was to snatch us from the fires of hell (Jude 23).

VI. God’s gift demands a response from us.

A. It demands gratitude (2 Corinthians 9:15).
B. It demands love (1 John 4:19 - this love is the sacrificial love agape).
C. God’s gift demands submission (1 Peter 5:6 - “humble yourselves“ means recognize your sinfulness and need of a savior; James 4:10).
E. It demands faithfulness (2 Corinthians 5:15).

From a sermon by Todd Clippard