

## **Kerygma Series #3: Rescued Homily Outline**

### **The 4 dimensions of the Gospel Message (Kerygma): 1) Created, 2) Captured, 3) Rescued, 4) Response**

#### ***Rescued***

Has God done anything about our hopeless situation?

Grace to ask: unshakeable confidence in Jesus as Lord of heaven and earth

Back to image of being captured and held by human trafficker

#### **Unshakeable confidence**

- God Himself came to rescue us.
- “Redeemer” = “*Goel*” in Hebrew
- Meditation from St. Ignatius of Loyola: “Father, send me. I’ll go.”

#### **Why did Jesus come?**

He came to fight.

- “The reason the Son of God Appeared was to destroy the words of the devil” (1Jn. 3:8).
- “While gentle silence enveloped all things, and night in its swift course was now half gone, your all-powerful word leaped from heaven, from the royal throne, into the midst of a land doomed, a stern warrior” (Wis. 18:14-15).

He invades the kingdom of satan from the outside in a clever way, in our human nature.

*“Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say landed in disguise”* (C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*).

#### **What was Jesus doing on the Cross?**

Jesus chose to die on the Cross willingly.

On the Cross, Jesus is...

- showing us the love of the Father, that God is love.
- making atonement for us.
- going to war to rescue us. He is hunting as the ultimate ambush predator.

## **What difference does it make?**

What Jesus has done changes EVERYTHING!

By His death and glorious resurrection from the dead, Jesus has:

- humiliated and despoiled the enemy
- destroyed death
- transferred us from the kingdom of sin and death into His Kingdom.
- given us access to the Father (adopted into the sonship of God the Son).
- recreated us: “Behold I make all things new.”
- rendered sin impotent: I no longer have to sin.
- given us authority over the enemy in His Name.
- sent us on a mission to get His world back.

*“Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say landed in disguise, and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage.”*

We are now equipped to fight, armed with love, truth, goodness, beauty, forgiveness and all the weapons of the kingdom of God. We’re personally called and sent to *undo*, to sabotage, what the enemy has wrought ever since the Fall.

## **We are rescued so as to rescue.**

### **Videos to watch on YouTube:**

Fr. John Riccardo. Rescued and Response: Jesus is not just Kind.

Fr. John Riccardo. Someone has Come to Fight.

Fr. John Riccardo. Rescued so as to Rescue: a Healing Conference.

### **Deeper dive in reading:**

Fr. John Riccardo. *Rescued: The Unexpected and Extraordinary News of the Gospel*, Chapters 9-12.