

Verdens lys og gode gerninger

Alle Helgens Søndag 3.11.2024. LGJ

Salmer: 363, Sl 40v6, Kristus er verdens lys, 661, 286, 430, Guds nåde vær med alle

Evangelium: Matthæus 5,13-16

I er jordens salt. Men hvis saltet mister sin kraft, hvad skal det så saltes med? Det duer ikke til andet end at smides ud og trampes ned af mennesker.

I er verdens lys. En by, der ligger på et bjerg, kan ikke skjules. Man tænder heller ikke et lys og sætter det under en skæppe, men i en stage, så det lyser for alle i huset. Således skal jeres lys skinne for mennesker, så de ser jeres gode gerninger og priser jeres fader, som er i himlene.

Nåde være med jer og fred fra Gud vor Fader og fra Jesus Kristus, vor frelser. Amen.

"I er verdens lys! Lad jeres lys skinne for mennesker!"

Hvordan kan han sige det? Der er jo meget mørke i os. Det siger Jesus selv: ²² Øjet er legemets lys. Er dit øje klart, er hele dit legeme lyst; ²³ men er dit øje mat, er hele dit legeme mørkt. Hvis nu lyset i dig er mørke -- hvilket mørke! (Matt. 6:22-23).

Og han overbeviser os om det, når han udlægger de 10 bud så vi må bøje os for ham og angre. Og han lærer os at bede om tilgivelse.

Men samtidig siger Jesus, at "mennesker skal se jeres gode gerninger og prise jeres Fader i Himlene." Hvordan? Hvad mener han, når han siger: "I er verdens lys"? Og hvad mener han med "jeres gode gerninger"?

VERDENS LYS

a) Jesus er verdens lys

Evangelierne viser os, hvordan mørket bliver brudt, fordi Gud kommer og bliver menneske. Med Lys. Med Liv. Med Frelse. Med håb. Og hvor han er, der er lys. Og der bliver også de, som tror på ham, bærere af lyset, fordi han er hos dem med liv, med frelse, med håb.

Se, hvordan Lyset bliver tændt i Matthæus-evangeliet. Stjernen, som de vise mænd ser. Gud lyser for dem. Men der er også mørke. Kong Herodes vil dræbe lyset, barnet, som blev født. Men lyset sejrer over mørket. De vise mænd følger stjernen og finder Jesus, tilbad. Og da de finder barnet og tilbeder det, er de lys for andre. Også

The Light of the World and Good Works

All Saints' Sunday 3.11.2024. LGJ

Hymns: Danish Hymnbook 363, Psalm 40v6, Christ is the Light, 661, 286, 430, God's grace

Gospel: Matt. 5:12-16 NAU

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Grace be with you and peace from God our Father and from Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

"You are the light of the world! Let your light shine before men!"

How can he say that? There is a lot of darkness in us. Jesus himself says: ²² The eye is the light of the body. If your eye is clear, your whole body is bright; ²³ But if your eye is dull, your whole body is dark. If the light in you is darkness -- what darkness! (Matt. 6:22-23).

And He convinces us of this when He expounds the 10 Commandments so that we may bow down to Him and repent. And he teaches us to ask for forgiveness.

But at the same time, Jesus says that people should see your good works and praise your Father in the heavens. How? What does he mean when he says, "You are the light of the world"? And what does he mean by "your good works"?

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

(a) Jesus is the Light of the World

The Gospels show us how darkness is broken because God comes and becomes man. With Lights. With Life. With Salvation. With Hope. And where he is, there is light. And there also become those who believe in Him, bearers of the light, because He is with them with life, salvation and hope.

See how the Light is lit in the Gospel of Matthew. The Star. Light. Gods Light. But there is also darkness. King Herod wants to kill the light, the child who has been born. But light triumphs over darkness. The wise men follow the star, they find Jesus and worship him. And when they have

Betlehems hyrder bar lyset med sig, fordi de havde set Frelseren. Sådan blev de lys for den verden, de levede i.

Matthæus fortæller om mørket efter Jesus var blevet døbt: *Da Jesus hørte, at Johannes var blevet sat i fængsel, drog han bort til Galilæa. Modstand og mørke.*

Men Jesus forlod Nazaret og bosatte sig i Kapernaum ved søen, i Zebulons og Naftalis land, for at det skulle opfyldes, som er talt ved profeten Esajas, der siger: Zebulons land og Naftalis land, Vejen langs Havet, Landet på den anden side af Jordan, Folkelagenes Galilæa, det folk, der sad i mørket, har set et stort lys, og de, der sad i dødens land og skygge, for dem brød lyset frem. Fra da af begyndte Jesus at prædike: "Omvend jer, for Himmeriget er kommet nær!" (Matt 4,12-17). Igen er det tydeligt, at det er os, der er i dødens land og skygge. Og vi har lys, alene fordi det bryder frem hos os, fordi Jesus har bosat sig hos os.

Evangeliet slutter også med et stort mørke som bliver brudt! Nemlig Langfredag, da Jesus korsfæstes. Matthæus skriver: ⁴⁵ *Men fra den sjette time faldt der mørke over hele jorden indtil den niende time.* ⁴⁶ *Og ved den niende time råbte Jesus med høj røst: «Eli, Eli! lemá sabaktáni?» -- det betyder: «Min Gud, min Gud! Hvorfor har du forladt mig?» (Matt. 27:45-46). JESUS døde på korset for vore synder og blev vor frelser. Mørket ramte ham. Men Lyset, det sande lys, overvandt mørket: *Efter sabbatten, da det gryede ad den første dag i ugen, kom Maria Magdalene og den anden Maria for at se til graven. ...* ⁵ *Men englen sagde til kvinderne: «Frygt ikke! Jeg ved, at I søger efter Jesus, den korsfæstede.* ⁶ *Han er ikke her; han er opstået, som han har sagt. (Matt. 28:1-6). Overalt, hvor kristne sammen forkynder dette evangelium: "Frygt ikke!, der er lys til verden. Der er verdens lys.**

b) I er verdens lys

Det er baggrunden for, at Jesus siger til sine disciple: "I er verdens lys!". Nej, I er det ikke i jer selv, men i JESUS. "

Evangelisten Johannes siger: *Lyset, det sande lys, som oplyser ethvert menneske, var ved at komme til verden, og verden var blevet til ved ham, og verden kendte ham ikke. "Jeg er verdens lys. Den, der følger mig, skal aldrig vandre i mørket, men have livets lys."*

I denne bjergprædiken, hvor Jesus siger: *"I er verdens lys!"* – hører vi først, hvordan han lyser for sine tilhører dengang og for os i dag. Han siger jo

seen the Light, they are filled with joy and share their light with others. The shepherds of Bethlehem also carried the light with them because they had seen the Savior. This is how they became light to the world in which they lived.

Matthew tells of the darkness after Jesus was baptized: *When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he went away to Galilee. Resistance and darkness.*

*And Jesus left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum by the sea, in the land of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, The land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, the Galilee of the nations, **the people who sat in darkness, have seen a great light. And those who sat in the land of death and shadow, the light broke out for them.** From then on, Jesus began to preach: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matthew 4:12-17). Again, it is clear that we are the ones who are in the land of death and shadow. And we have light only because it breaks forth in us, because Jesus has settled with us.*

The gospel also ends with a great darkness that is broken! Namely, Good Friday, when Jesus is crucified. Matthew writes: ⁴⁵ *But from the sixth hour darkness fell over all the earth until the ninth hour.* ⁴⁶ *And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli! lemá sabaktáni?" -- it means: "My God, my God! Why have you forsaken me?" (Matt. 27:45-46). JESUS died on the cross for our sins and became our Savior. Darkness hit him. But the Light, the true light, overcame the darkness: *after the Sabbath, when it dawned on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the second Mary came to see the tomb.* ⁵ *But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are searching for Jesus, the crucified one.* ⁶ *He is not here; he is risen, as he has said. (Matt. 28:1.5-6). Wherever Christians together preach this Gospel-message: "Fear not!", there is light to the world. There is the light of the world.**

(b) You are the light of the world

That is why Jesus says to his disciples: "You are the light of the world!" No, you are not in yourselves, but in JESUS. "

John the Evangelist says: *The light, the true light that illuminates every man, was coming into the world, and the world had come into being through him, and the world did not know him. "I am the light of the world. He who follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

forud ni gange: "Salige er de. Salige er I." Han gør os salige. Han gør os salige, når han taler til os, tilgiver os, renses os fra vore synder, giver os håb. Og da bærer vi alle hans gaver med os inklusiv hans Lys. Derfor er vi verdens lys!

Ser vi på os selv, er der mørke. Men ser vi på ham, er der lys. Og han lyser for os, så vi ikke vandrer i mørke, fordi vi har Livets Lys. Han siger "I" og knytter os sammen. Kristne som tror og er døbt, hører sammen. Den kristne menighed er verdens lys, fordi Jesus er i dens midte hvor 2 eller 3 er sammen i hans navn.

GODE GERNINGER

"... så de ser jeres gode gerninger og priser jeres fader, som er i himlene."

Først: Hvem der ser de gode gerninger? Og dernæst: Hvad er gode gerninger?

a) Hvem ser de gode gerninger?

Ikke i selv, men de andre, dem, I lever sammen med i verden. De ser det.

Vi ville måske gerne se det selv, bedømme os selv, sådan at vi kunne falde til ro, stole på, at det er ok med os, så vi er tilfredse med os selv. Men der er noget her, som Jesus lærer os: at det er HAM, Frelseren, der ser dine gode gerninger, og det er andre mennesker, der ser dem. IKKE os.

Det forklarer han særligt i den sidste prædiken, Gud har givet os i Matthæusevangeliet: ³⁴ *Da skal kongen sige til dem ved sin højre side: Kom, I som er min faders velsignede, og tag det rige i arv, som er bestemt for jer, siden verden blev grundlagt.* ³⁵ *For jeg var sulten, og I gav mig noget at spise, jeg var tørstig, og I gav mig noget at drikke, jeg var fremmed, og I tog imod mig,* ³⁶ *jeg var nøgen, og I gav mig tøj, jeg var syg, og I tog jer af mig, jeg var i fængsel, og I besøgte mig.* ³⁷ *Da skal de retfærdige sige: Herre, hvornår så vi dig sulten og gav dig noget at spise, eller tørstig og gav dig noget at drikke?* ³⁸ *Hvornår så vi dig som en fremmed og tog imod dig eller så dig nøgen og gav dig tøj?* ³⁹ *Hvornår så vi dig syg eller i fængsel og besøgte dig?* ⁴⁰ *Og kongen vil svare dem: Sandelig siger jeg jer: Alt, hvad I har gjort mod en af disse mine mindste brødre, det har I gjort mod mig. (Matt. 25:34-40)*

Det, du skal hvile i, er ikke det, du gør, men det din Fader i himlen gør for dig, og hvad han har besluttet for dig: *Kom, I som er min faders velsignede, og tag det rige i arv, som er bestemt for jer, siden verden blev grundlagt.* Her er hvilen, frelsen håbet. Ikke i noget vi gør for Gud eller hinanden. Og Gud viser os mørket i os selv, for at

In this Sermon of Mount where Jesus says, "*You are the light of the world!*" – we first hear how he lights his hearers then and us today. For he says nine times beforehand: "*Blessed are they. Blessed are you.*" He makes us blessed. He makes us blessed when He speaks to us, forgives us, cleanses us from our sins, gives us hope. And then we carry all his gifts with us including his Light. That is why we are the light of the world!

If we look at ourselves, there is darkness. But when we look at him, there is light. And He shines for us, so that we do not walk in darkness. We have the Light of Life. He says "I" and connects us. Christians who believe and are baptized belong together. The Christian church is the light of the world, because Jesus is in its midst where 2 or 3 are together in his name.

GOOD WORKS

"... so that they may see your good works, and praise your Father who is in heaven."

First: Who sees the good works? And then: what are the good works?.

(a) Who sees the good works?

Not yourself, but the others, those you live with in the world. They see it.

We might want to see it for ourselves, and thereby trust that it is ok with us, so that we are happy with ourselves. But there is something here that Jesus teaches us: it is HIM, the Savior, who sees your good works, and it is other people who see the good works. Not we ourselves!

He explains this especially in the last sermon God has given us in the Gospel of Matthew: *Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'* *Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'* *And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'* (Matt. 25:34-40 ESV)

What you are to rest in is not what you do, but what your Father in heaven does for you and what He has prepared for you: *'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you*

vi altid må finde hvilen frelsen i ham og ikke i os selv.

b) Hvad er gode gerninger?

Hvad er så de gode gerninger? Det forklarer Jesus jo også i denne tekst: det er det, du gør for de mindste af hans brødre, som tror på ham. Men også det, du gør i din hverdag i øvrigt for andre. De gode gerninger stammer fra hans gode gerning mod os! Og det er hans gode gerning mod os, der gør, at vi hver morgen kan gå på arbejde, vise omsorg, tilgive, bede om tilgivelse.

De gode gerninger forklarer Jesus i Bjergprædikenen: Det er at du holder dig til de 10 bud, ærer Gud og tjener din næste. Og han sammenfatter sådan: *"Alt, hvad I vil, at mennesker skal gøre mod jer, det skal I også gøre mod dem. Sådan er loven og profeterne!"* (Matt 7,12). Ja, han sammenfatter det i ét enkelt ord: *«Barmhjertighed ønsker jeg, ikke slagtoffer,»* (Matt. 12,7). Og det ord kommer fra Gud, fordi det er sådan, Gud er: *"Nådig og barmhjertig, sen til vrede og rig på troskab."*

Når der kommer barmhjertighed fra et menneske som dig og mig, og når andre mærker det – og samtidig kender os og ved, at vi har gjort meget dårligt, er egoistiske og hver dag har brug for tilgivelse, hvad er så deres reaktion? Hvor kommer den barmhjertighed fra? Fra din Fader i Himmelen. Der er jo ikke andre muligheder.

Derfor priser de jeres fader, som er i himlene!

Lad os til sidst høre en sammenfatning af Jesu ord i begyndelsen af hans prædiken:

Salige er de fattige i ånden, for himmeriget er deres, salige er de, som sørger, for de skal trøstes, salige er de, som hungre og tørster efter retfærdighed, for de skal mættes, salige er de barmhjertige, for de skal møde barmhjertighed. Salige er de, som stifter fred, for de skal kaldes Guds børn. Salige er I, når man på grund af mig forfølger jer og lyver jer alt muligt ondt på. Fryd jer og glæd jer, for jeres løn er stor i himlene. I er verdens lys. Ligesom en by, der ligger på et bjerg, ikke kan skjules sådan skal jeres lys skinne for mennesker, så de ser jeres gode gerninger og priser jeres fader som er i himlene.

Amen.

from the foundation of the world. (Matt. 25:34 ESV) Here is rest, salvation hope. Not in anything we do for God or each other. And God shows us the darkness in ourselves, so that we may always find rest, salvation, in Him and not in ourselves.

(b) What are good works?

What, then, are the good works? Jesus also explains this in this text: that is what you do for the least of his brothers who believe in him. But also what you do in your everyday life for others. The good works stem from His good work toward us! And it is His good deed towards us that enables us to go to work every morning, to show care, to forgive, to ask for forgiveness.

The good works Jesus explains in the Sermon on the Mount: It is that you keep the 10 commandments, honor God and serve your neighbor. And he concludes: *"Whatever you want men to do to you, you must also do to them. Such is the law and the prophets!"* (Matthew 7:12). Indeed, he sums it up in a single word: *"I desire mercy, not sacrifice"* (Matthew 12:7). And that word comes from God because that is what God is like: *"Gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in faithfulness."*

When mercy comes from a person like you and me, and when others feel it – and at the same time know us and know that we have done very bad, are selfish and need forgiveness every day, what is their reaction? Where does that mercy come from? From your Father in Heaven. There are no other options. Therefore they praise your Father who is in heaven.

Finally, let's hear a summary of Jesus' words at the beginning of his sermon:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven, blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted, blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled, blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are those who make peace, for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are you when because of me you are persecuted and all kinds of evil are lied to. Rejoice and rejoice, for your reward is great in the heavens. You are the light of the world. Just as a city that is on a mountain cannot be hidden, so your light must shine before men, that they may see your good works, and praise your Father who is in heaven.

Amen.