

Let's Worship God

7th-12th October 2024

Isaiah



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Monday - Isaiah 53:10 - Results of Christ's Sacrifice

One translation of the start of verse 10 is that it pleased the Father to bruise the Son. It pleased the Son to be bruised, as well. His delight was to do His Father's will. This is not some enjoyment of cruelty. Rather the Father delighted in being able justly to extend mercy to sinners. All happened according to God's will. He willingly put His Son to grief that we might have everlasting joy. The Son grievously endured the consequence of our sin and its guilt and received the curse we should because He loved us so much that He wanted us blessed. Jehovah made the servant's soul an offering for sin. His blood was shed to bring forgiveness and everlasting life, life by His once and for all sacrifice unto death at the cross.

Jesus receives a reward, a reward for His faithfulness unto death. Jesus persevered because He knew that on the other side of the cross, on the other side of the grave, was the resurrection and his ascension, and His coming again in power and glory. The second part of this verse is a direct prediction of His rising from the grave. He was raised, and on that very day, He saw His seed, His offspring. He never had children after the flesh, but He has many, many children who are born anew in and through Him. He saw Mary Magdalene, He saw His disciples that very day. He saw His offspring. And now from heaven, He sees them. He sees you.

He prolongs His days - there is no more dying for Jesus. There is no more ultimate dying for those resurrected in Him, and He ever lives to make intercession for them. He Who lives forever, Whose days are prolonged, is actively continuing to work for you as your Prophet, speaking to you through the Holy Spirit, through His Word and through the sacraments. He continues to hear you and to make His intercession for you. He does that as your great High Priest. He continues to send the Holy Spirit to apply that which He has done on the cross to save sinners. He continues as King. He rules over all things.

The will of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. What is the will of the LORD? It is to glorify Himself, to delight in His own works, to save sinners. All is put into the hand of Jesus. He rules over all, and all prospers, not fails, in His hand. Christian, take heart! You are part of the reward of Jesus Christ, and you are His instrument in His hand, this hand that manages to glorify His Father and to do His people good.

Question

1. What things are part of Jesus' reward?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God always does what is best.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. Isaiah 54:5

Praise: Psalm 149 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Tuesday - Isaiah 53:11- Righteousness From Another

The word "anguish" in this verse is sometimes translated "labour" or "travail". It means desperately hard work. That is what Jesus went through in all His life: pathetic birth circumstances, suffering all His life from the effects of the Fall around Him, nearly homeless, heartbroken and dismayed by sin and its effects around Him, misunderstood, fully understood and rejected, lonely, hated, despised, cursed by man and God, and killed. All the grievous humiliation brings benefit to Him as well as us. Christ's ultimate goal was His Father's glory, and His ultimate motivation for all His work has been love to His Father. Under that, though, is His love to His people, and His delight in saving and having them evermore. Thus, He is satisfied! He is happy with the results of His obedience unto death, even the death of the cross (Philippians 2:8). Willingly did the Father put the Son to grief that we might have everlasting joy. He grievously endured the consequence of our sin and its guilt and received the curse we should, that we'd be blessed. He is the Great High Priest, and He was, as well, the One to Whom the trespass offerings, and the Atonement, and all the other sacrifices and offerings pointed to. Even as the lives of bulls, of sheep, of goats, of pigeons were literally cut short, as their existence was snuffed out, and as their blood flowed on and on for centuries, so our Saviour was broken and His blood shed to sprinkle many nations and bring forgiveness and everlasting life by His once and for all sacrifice on the cross.

The word "knowledge" in this verse means knowledge about Jesus. Knowing Jesus, and knowing and believing the salvation He brings. This is speaking of justification by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. The Shorter Catechism says: "Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein He pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone." (WSC #33)

As the perfect Man, Jesus is justly able to take man's penalty. He is the second Adam, the Covenant Federal Head of His people (Romans 5:12-19). As we fell in Adam's fall, so we stand in the second Adam's obedience. He is our Champion! At the same time, He is God with us, Emmanuel. Thus He is strong to bear our sin and its guilt and curse, which no mere man could do. That which we earned by our sin, which would crush us and sink us into Hell, is that which He takes on Himself for our sake. He carries it so we don't!

Question

1. How are we saved from sin?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that we are justified by what Christ has done.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. Isaiah 54:5

Praise: Psalm 150 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Wednesday - Isaiah 53:12- Great Reward

We have been looking at Jesus being in the place of sinners. Because of that His Father in heaven will divide him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong. The Hebrew might be a little better translated - 'I will divide up the great for His portion!'. His portion will be taken from the great. No matter how grand they might be, no matter how they might be esteemed and obeyed, they shall have to yield to Him. For he shall be King of these kings. God's servant will have the spoil of the strong. No matter their power, no matter their might, no matter their fervor, their technological advantages, or whatever, Jesus shall conquer them or convert them, and Jesus shall reign. He is the King, and nothing can stop Him. Things may seem to be in a bad way. How worse can it be than when Jesus Himself is there, accursed on a cross, abandoned by all, and crying out a few words? It seemed that Satan had triumphed. But was that the case? No, certainly not! Jesus Christ is God's mediatorial King, and Jesus shall bring all things under His feet. This gives us confidence, this gives us comfort in admittedly difficult days, and it spurs us to push when God's Spirit is evidently working.

Why does Jesus get this reward? He poured out his life unto death. This is speaking of His blood being shed there at the cross. Jesus is not a sinner, but for our sake, He puts on our sin. He has none of His own. He is counted as being the sinner in the place of sinners. He bore the sin of many. He carried it for them. Every sinner weighed down, crushed by sin may call to Jesus to rescue him. This is not something that's only for a few people. He bore the sin of many. It doesn't say He started to bear it. It's done. There's no ongoing work in you that brings along your salvation. It's all accomplished at the cross.

Jesus prays for sinners - He makes intercession. Isn't it wonderful when you are in difficult circumstances to know that God's people are praying for you? How much more wonderful to know that Jesus is interceding for you!

Questions

1. What promise is in this verse?
2. What does it mean that Jesus is interceding for us?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ is praying for you.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. Isaiah 54:5

Praise: Psalm 1 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Thursday - Isaiah 54:1-4 - The Glory of Christ's Children

We have here a picture of a married woman with many children and another woman unable to have children. The married woman is unfaithful Israel and Judah. This married woman was the one who professed to be the people of God. Yet they went into all sorts of idolatry.

The picture here is of someone who is singing, singing a song of joy and of thanksgiving and of praise to God for something she did not expect could ever happen. She who had never been able to have children now has far more than the one who claimed to be the one with the power, and the prestige, and the wealth. The true Israel of God grows and thrives this time now with children brought in from afar as well. She is like a tree. Paul picks up on that imagery in Romans 11, where we have this beautiful olive tree, and some branches are broken off from it because of unbelief. But branches are brought in from a wild olive tree and grafted in. They grow, and they thrive, and they do well. And that's a picture of the one people of God, made of Jew and Gentile, all growing together in the one Israel of God. And now, in fact, there are more of the desolate, those who come from the Gentiles than from the Jews.

How big is this new family? Well, we see this in verses two and three. The gospel goes out to the nations. And most of you reading this are living fulfillment of this prophecy. The picture here is of a household living in a tent. More panels of the tent must be woven, stakes must be pounded in deeply, the ropes must be let out, because God's family is rapidly expanding. This is what we've seen already, and what we have yet to see further. It is with confidence that we may and must go forward because we inherit it all. The tent must be enlarged. Jesus sees His seed, and Jesus brings forth more.

There is no shame, then, for the children of God. No shame for their mother. She will have joy in a husband who has redeemed her, children that He has provided, and all her shame is gone, as the people of God, the bride of Christ, becomes more beautiful with the folly removed, along with the other filth and spots and blemishes. She rejoices in her husband, with her children gathered about her in a multitude that no one can number, the many who are justified. All of them rejoice in the Husband, rejoice in the giver of life, rejoice in the One Who gave Himself, that they might live and thrive.

Question

1. What is this passage a picture of?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ is saving people in many nations.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. Isaiah 54:5

Praise: Psalm 2 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Friday - Isaiah 54:5-8 - The Glorious Husband

Who is it that guarantees a seed to the Church? Who is it that calms her fears and assures her of love and spiritual prosperity? It is the Servant of the previous chapter, the One Whose own seed He has delivered, the One Who is the Husband to His bride. He is her mighty Maker, the One who brought her into being by His life, death, and resurrection. She was in His eye in eternity, in His plan at the beginning, brought to birth in the midst of the shame of the Fall, constituted as a people at Sinai, brought to maturity at Pentecost, and built, to this day, as promised by Jesus in Matthew 16:18. She awaits, of course, her perfection and wedding feast when she marries the Lamb (Revelation 19:9). He is her husband, Who loves her in covenant love, to Whom she must give reverence and serve in gladness. He is Jehovah, the One Who is strong to save, Who is able to do all for her. He, the God-man, is her Kinsman-Redeemer, the One Who rescues her from bondage to sin and death by His own life, death, and resurrection. He is the Holy One of Israel, Who is willing to save in the Covenant of Grace, headed, secured, and constituted by His Mediatorial Person and finished redeeming work. He is the One Who rules over all nations for her sake, and who brings the nations under His rule, to glorify His Father and to bless the nations in His Bride.

This bride has been through difficulty, brought about by her own sin. From her He separates Himself for a time, yet never is there a divorce. His face was turned, but never His back. This could be looking to the Babylonian exile, or to the end of prophecy for 400 years, but it speaks to God's discipline of His true people. He calls the separation short, which it is compared to what she deserved, but His love is eternal and stronger than death (Song of Solomon 8:6-7). In contrast, then, to the short wrath, He gives abundant mercy, everlasting love, and abundant grace (Romans 5:20-21). All this is promised in terms of the Covenant of Grace. Sin is forgiven, and new life, and union and communion with Him, is poured out.

Oh, Church of Christ, saddened by sin, discouraged and doubtful, lift up your head, for your Maker and Husband, your Redeemer loves and comforts you! And, sad sinner, to you comes the invitation to look to this One Who is full of mercy and pardon, Who promises life and love if you come to Him. Cry out with the heart to Him to save you from your sin, and you shall find it so, you shall find yourself part of His Beloved!

Question

1. Why can we as the Church be encouraged by these verses?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ is our Maker and Husband.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. Isaiah 54:5

Praise: Psalm 3- See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Saturday - Isaiah 54:9-12 - Precious Jewels

Can we believe these verses? Is it too good to be true? Certainly not! God's Word is as secure as His promise to Noah. We've not had a Flood like that since, have we? His Word, His promise is utterly trustworthy. What is the substance of the promise in verses 9-10? God will never, never forsake her whom He loves, even in the midst of dark and difficult days. There may be days such as when mountains depart and hills remove. All that seems permanent may fail, and the world be terrorised. In all things, our Jesus will abide, will protect His Church, will build His Church, will bring His people safely home in His mercy and in peace secured by His broken body and shed blood.

There are times in which the Church must pass through storm. Remember Jesus' words at the end of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 7. Remember Jesus' words on the night of His betrayal in John 16:33. So it is, here in verses 11-12, that the Church is called storm-tossed, and so she has been. In Isaiah's day there had been the Assyrians, in a couple hundred years there would be the Babylonians, there would be the Greeks, and then the Romans and apostate Jews who would attempt to end the true Israel of God. However, in the midst of the moving mountains and hills, Jehovah, by His Servant, builds His Church (Matthew 16:18). We see the New Testament temple walls built, or the walls of the New Jerusalem, and not in any common manner! We see the walls made of precious and shining jewels, based upon a glittering blue foundation. That foundation is the prophets and apostles, with Jesus as the head cornerstone (Psalm 118:22; Ephesians 2:20). The building stones are us (Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:4-6). We are precious jewels before Him (Malachi 3:16-18). We are as the precious jewels carried in the High Priest's vestments, representing all Israel in the Most Holy, carried there by the High Priest, even as we are carried into God's glorious presence by our High Priest, Christ. We don't know the exact translation for all these jewels, but their variety suggests the richness of God's grace, and the fact that we all come from different nations, families, tribes, and peoples, making up one beautiful and glorious Bride.

Question

1. Who are the building stones?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. Isaiah 54:5

Praise: Psalm 4 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

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