

Let's Worship God

1st-6th December 2024

Isaiah



Isaiah

Isaiah

Monday - Isaiah 62:1 - Rise and Shine

Who is the "I" that is speaking? Is it Christ? Is it Isaiah? Commentators have come down on different sides of this question. Maybe the best way to put it here is that it is God in Christ who is saying this, but it is also Isaiah saying and doing this. Soon the people living in Isaiah's day would be going through harder times as they reaped the results of their apostasy. The glory that had been the people of God, who were to be the light for the nations and a guide to them, would be snuffed out, because they love their sin. Yet in all this, God would not totally abandon them. He would still send forth, in the proper time, His Son. He would, through Christ, speak peace to the people of Judah and Jerusalem and to lands beyond. God would not be silent. Because of the redemption that would come someday, because of God's calling on his life, because of God's purposes to be accomplished through him, for the glory's sake that is yet coming, Isaiah will not stop his work or be silent.

What is the gospel then that is to be preached? What is the good news? It is this righteousness going forth as brightness. It is this salvation that is as a burning torch. Righteousness is innocence before the law of God. Jesus lived a perfect life that He might be the perfect priest and the perfect sacrifice. He kept the law in your place, if you're a believer. Then He righteously took care of your sin in your place. You deserved to die because of your sin. The slightest sin deserves the curse and death because it's against an infinitely holy and good God. But Jesus not only lived for the people of God, He died for the people of God and paid off all their sin there at the cross. Because His work was completed, death held Him no more. So on the third day, according to the Scriptures, He arose. He received the rich reward of dominion over all things. We live, we who once were dead in our trespasses and sins; we have transformed lives. Our lives shine before the world and witness to God's glory in Jesus Christ. The salvation that He brings rescues sinners from their guilt and its curse. Jesus raises you from darkness and death to light and life. He rescues sinners from their slavery to sin. This gospel, this good news brought about by this Saviour brings forth something bright, shining, and ravishingly beautiful. God has arisen, arisen to save!

Question

1. Why will Isaiah not keep silent?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the righteousness and salvation Christ brings.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. Isaiah 62:12

Praise: Psalm 47 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Tuesday - Isaiah 62:2-3 - Christ's Crown

In verse 2 we see that the people of God are admired by the nations and their kings. What is so admirable about the people of God? It is only a gift of grace of God. It is nothing in them. For they, left to themselves, would be as the other people. God has changed us, and God transforms. And this is that which captivates the attention of the nations. They see the righteousness of the people of God. We are bound to Jesus Christ by covenant. His righteousness is ours. We have a new name as the people of God and the bride of Christ, the name of the one who loved us and who loves us yet.

In verse 3 we have a crown that is beautiful and precious and glorious. The crown is the church of Jesus Christ. The gold in a crown must be purified; must be polished to look beautiful, just as the people of God are beautified through the difficulties that He sovereignly ordains for them. A beautiful crown has a variety of rare gems. Christ's people, His precious jewels, are different from different nations, from different cultures, from different classes and sexes. The crown is precious to a king because of what it symbolizes. It is because our Lord Jesus Christ has been given us by His Father that we are precious to Him. The crown is also a symbol of the king's authority and of his responsibility to defend, protect, serve, and build up his land and his people. Christ is reigning, He is ruling from heaven without mistakes, ruling wisely over all things for the sake of His church, for your sake, child of God. This crown is precious because it is His commitment to you and your commitment to Him. It is that personal attachment that makes it so precious to him. This crown is glorious. The King Himself has made the crown. He has taken His people who were ugly in their sin and made them beautiful. He continues to glorify Himself more and more in and through us. It is all too easy for many of us to look to our own remaining sin and sometimes despair over it. At times when we are greatly afflicted, we wonder if God really values us at all. Let this be the assurance for you. You are being fitted as Christ's crown and His royal diadem. Through it all, you shall always be and become more and more beautiful, precious, and glorious to Him. This isn't for everyone. The unbeliever is not part of His crown. And if the unbeliever continues in the way he is going - for him is destruction evermore. But Jesus will save any who come to Him in faith and repentance!

Question

1. How is the Church like a crown?

Prayer Points

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

Memory Verse

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. Isaiah 62:12

Praise: Psalm 48 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Wednesday - Isaiah 62:4-5 - Christ's Love for His Bride

It appears that Judah and Jerusalem would be forsaken, abandoned by God. The nations round about would think exactly that. However, God in grace comes to some of these sinners and begins to help them. The good, the kind, the merciful, the gracious news here is found in the change of names. The name of the land has been Desolate. That's how the people are described because of their sins. But a day is coming, in which their name will no longer be Desolate. They will be in a covenant of love with the One sent for them, the Lord Jesus Christ. God in His grace and kindness takes these desolate ones and marries them to His Son.

In verse 5 we see Christ's love to his bride. Love is a fixed commitment to the one whom you love. With that commitment is a commitment to do your loved one good, even if you must sacrifice for it. Godly love always acts toward others in a way consistent with the Bible. This commitment, by the One Who has died in the place of His bride, is unshakable. This is why we, as the Church of Jesus Christ, and as individual believers, can have utter confidence that what God says here is applicable to us.

We are the children of the Church of Jesus Christ. The phrase in verse 5, "your sons marry you", is speaking of the fact that people are joined to the Church of Jesus Christ. Christ loves His church, meaning the organization as well as the organism, the visible expression of it in space and time and human experience, not merely what theologians call "the church invisible." We must love it too. Even as He has committed himself to her, we must commit ourselves to the best expression of the Church of Jesus Christ that we can find. Jesus loves it. How can we hate it? There are sins in the Church of Jesus Christ. She is not entirely spotless; not yet. Those sins, those spots, those blemishes, yes, we should hate and we should long for, pray for, labour for cleansing from these things in the Church of Jesus Christ. But we must not hate the church herself; we must love her, commit to her, be part of her.

We are members of this bride whom Christ loves. We are not merely tolerated. In you, Christ is delighted. And this despite the fact that He knows you through and through in a way that you will never be able to know yourself. He delights in our fellowship. He delights to bless you. He delights to mold you to His image, even though that may hurt for a bit. And He delights in what He will make of you!

Question

1. Why should we love the Church?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would love the Church more and more.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. Isaiah 62:12

Praise: Psalm 49 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Thursday - Isaiah 62:6-7 - Christ's Watchmen

The One Who does not rest and does not remain silent, the One Who made the walls and guarantees their safety, is the One Who appoints, equips, and sets the watchmen. From high upon a city's wall, watchmen could look out by day and night to see if there were any approaching danger outside. From high aloft, they could see any danger within, be it flood, fire, or criminality. Further, they would be able to call out about the danger or that all was well. Who are the watchmen? They are primarily the elders of the Church of Jesus Christ. They have the God-given duty to watch over you as ones who must give account (Hebrews 13:17). They can and must herald the coming of mercy and grace in the coming of the King, they must warn of danger without, they must note and reprove evil within, and assure all in the City of the King's continued presence, care, and infallible protection. Here is the basis for teaching doctrine, exercising discipline, maintaining governance, and keeping worship pure, all in the King's instruction and all to the King's glory. To have such watchmen is a wonderful blessing! They enable and exemplify godly watchfulness, and stimulate us to help each other in our godly living.

In verse 6, the watchmen never held their peace, and were commanded to keep no silence for warning and encouragement, but in verse 7 there is a further task for them. They must continue to speak to the King, as well, and lead His people in doing the same. Christ told a parable to encourage men to pray and not give up (Luke 18:1-6; Luke 11:5-8). The assurance is that the King hears and does what is good, delightful, and glorifying. There is also the assurance that one thing prayed for -- Zion's peace and prosperity - is absolutely assured, as Christ will build His Church (Matthew 16:18). No one, nothing, can stop it, or stop the King!

Questions

1. Who are watchmen in the church?
2. What jobs are they to do?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for your Session.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. Isaiah 62:12

Praise: Psalm 50 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Friday - Isaiah 62:8-9 - Safe and Sound

In these verses we come to this promise of the safety and security of the people of God. We see in verse 8 that they should be safe from their enemies. In the past, when there had been unfaithfulness in the people of God, He had taken away from them their grain and their wine. God is saying that which should have gone to strengthen and nourish Israel was taken away. But it wasn't just thrown away. It went to their enemies to strengthen and encourage them. That's what had happened, and that's what would yet happen to Israel. In this prophecy Jesus is saying, I will no longer do that. The fullness of this prophecy is looking to the days of Messiah to come, and to days beyond that. We see the gospel going forth to the nations. We see people bringing in their wealth for Jesus Christ. We see the bread and the wine in Communion. They shall be in the church until the Lord Jesus should come again. There's a promise of what shall be.

In verse 9 we see that we are soundly blessed. Not only would and will the church of Jesus Christ be kept safe and be relieved from all her enemies, but she will be placed in a position of security and soundness. The Lord Jesus Christ has said in Matthew 16:18, "I will build my church". And He is doing so. God gives to us great blessings that we eat before Him, yielding to Him all our praise, and receiving from Him all kinds of blessing and benefit. Jesus cares for us as the church of Jesus Christ. He cares for us in our denomination. He cares for us in our presbytery. He cares for us in our own local congregation. He cares for our families. He takes care of us, each of us as individuals, giving us that which is good, giving us that which is needed, taking care of our bodies because they are important to him too. Our Father in Heaven delights to give us what is good, and He delights to delight us. But He also takes care of us in another way as well. We get to feed on Jesus Himself in the Lord's Supper, by faith, in a spiritual way. As He is spiritually present with us, and we feed on Him in our souls, He provides us with exactly what we have pictured here in verse 9. All these promises of blessing are unchanging because God does not change!

Question

1. What promises are in these verses?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that we can trust that God will care for us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. Isaiah 62:12

Praise: Psalm 51 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Saturday - Isaiah 62:10-12 - Proclamation of Grace

The Church has been described as a City in this chapter. Sinners are urged to enter into the Church, to come through Christ, who is the Door (John 10:7). A call goes out to prepare, build, and clear. What is all this? On God's part it is the covenant of redemption where the Father gives the Son, the Son gladly comes to save and be the Way, and the Spirit applies the Saviour's work to the elect. On man's part, Jesus sends forth preachers. This is building up the highway for the people of God, showing forth God's grace in Christ by the means of preaching. There are many impediments, great stones and rocks, which must be removed. There are those of idolatry, of self-righteousness, and despair that can only be removed by the Spirit working through the preaching of the Word of God. There is a command to lift up a signal. A signal or banner would show the place and presence of the King. It was the place to which the people would resort and rally to Him. Within the Church, the King Himself is the banner, for He has been lifted up, and draws all men to Himself.

In verses 11-12 we have this wonderful proclamation of grace. It's not to Israel alone that this word of grace goes, it is being preached throughout the world. Christ has come to save His people from their sin. His reward is with Him. His reward is Him. There are many things, by God's grace, that we who are in Christ receive of Him. We receive life itself. We receive spiritual ears, spiritual mind, a spiritual and new heart to look to Him and believe. We receive faith. We receive the grace of repentance where we turn away from our sin. We receive forgiveness of sin and justification. We receive adoption as the children of God and we are brought into God's family along with our Lord Jesus Christ. But with all this, the most wonderful gift of all is Himself.

God's people are called by a new name. We are a holy people. We are set apart from sin. We're no longer comfortable in sin. Jesus is cleansing you from that sin through His Spirit. We are redeemed. We are bought back. We are bought and paid for by the blood of Jesus Christ, who valued us that much. We are sought out. Jesus could justly have left us in our sin. But He has saved us. He went to seek out and to save the lost sheep. He searched and found us who were running away from Him because He loves us and we are not forsaken. He has taken us to Himself. Never will He abandon us or be separated from us. His love is everlastingly upon us!

Question

1. What is our new name?

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

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. Isaiah 62:12

Praise: Psalm 52 - 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!**

Let's Worship God is produced
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