

Sunday, January 12, 2020

God is My Salvation – Isaiah

62. Everlasting Joy – Isaiah 51:1-11

- I. Listen: The Promise of Salvation – vs. 1-8
  - A. Promises to Zion (vs. 1-3)
    1. The Righteous Remnant
      - a. You who follow righteousness – being right with God
      - b. You who seek the Lord – come to where the Lord is known to be
    2. Look to Abraham and Sarah
      - a. Old, as good as dead, incapable
      - b. Blessed and increased!
      - c. The transforming power of God in the blessing and the divine energizing whereby *one* without hope of increase became *many*
    3. The Lord has purposed to:
      - a. Comfort a ruined people (hopeless like Abraham and Sarah)
      - b. Make Zion like Eden – restore and bless, removing the curse and sin – Gen. 3:18; Isa. 65:17; 2 Peter 3:13
      - c. Waste places will be places of joy, gladness, thanksgiving, and singing – Isa. 11:6-9; 35:1
  - B. Promises to the World (vs. 4-6)
    1. My people, My nation, The peoples – law and justice established through His people in the whole world – Isa. 42:4
    2. The True people of God are marked by righteousness – conformity to the character and claims of God
      - a. My righteousness is near
      - b. My salvation has gone out
      - c. My arms will judge and will be trusted
      - d. The saving work of the Lord satisfies every standard of the Lord’s righteous nature, meets every legal claim, and discharges every debt
      - e. Wait and trust – Rom. 8:19
    3. Look to eternity – Psa. 102:25-26; Isa. 34:4 – earth and creation will one day end, salvation will not end
  - C. Powerful Promises (vs. 7-8)
    1. The righteous remnant
      - a. You who know (by experience) righteousness
      - b. You people in whose heart is My law – Jer. 31:33; Heb. 10:16
      - c. Do not fear the reproach of men or be afraid of their insults – Mark 13:13; Psa. 44:16-17
        - 1) Fear – emotional response to being taunted
        - 2) Afraid – terrified into inaction
        - 3) Insults – reviling, verbal hostility and abuse, blasphemy
    2. Temporary vs. Eternal
      - a. These things are temporal and passing away
      - b. Righteousness and salvation are forever – 2 Cor. 4:18 – intrinsic permanence through all generations
- II. Awake: Calling on God to Act – vs. 9-11
  - A. God Will Do What He Promises – like the Exodus
    1. What God has promised He will do
      - a. Pray for the fulfillment of Divine promises – Psa. 44:23-24
      - b. Rahab = Egypt (fierceness and insolence) – Psa. 87:4
      - c. Serpent = Dragon – Psa. 74:12; Ezek. 29:3; 32:2
      - d. The sea and the deep – Egypt’s creation mythology, the chaos out of which life sprang – it is at God’s mercy – Psa. 89:8-9
    2. The threat and danger of the great deep became a highway for God’s people – Exodus 14:21-31
  - B. The redeemed will return home with singing – Heb. 11:22; Rev. 21:2
    1. Crowned with everlasting joy
    2. Sorrow and sighing will abandon them