

The Bible in a Verse

Isaiah 33:22

February 17, 2010

Jim Gunn

**(For the LORD *is* our Judge,
The LORD *is* our Lawgiver,
The LORD *is* our King;
He will save us);** **NKJV**

It is not my usual practice to lift a verse out of the Scripture and forge a sermon around it. That is not a criticism of that method of preaching as I would become a critic of the “Prince of Preachers,” Charles Spurgeon.

Isaiah was God’s Old Testament prophet to Judah from about 740 to 680 B.C.

Isaiah is nearly all Gospel; he pictures man as God sees him; a guilty sinner.

Isaiah 1:6

From the sole of the foot even to the head,
There is no soundness in it,
But wounds and bruises and putrefying sores;

Isaiah foretold the Incarnation of Jesus, the Son of God.

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Of the increase of *His* government and peace
There will be no end,
Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,
To order it and establish it with judgment and justice
From that time forward, even forever.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

And we could go on with examples from Isaiah but I want to come back to our one verse Isaiah 33:22.

ISAIAH'S JEHOVAH is JESUS!

**(For the LORD *is* our Judge,
The LORD *is* our Lawgiver,
The LORD *is* our King;
He will save us);**

Judge, Lawgiver, King, and Savior: Jesus Christ.

Brief background:

The original kingdom of Saul, David and Solomon, at Solomon's death was divided into the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

Isaiah was a prophet to the Southern Kingdom of Judah.
Isaiah prophesied during the reign of four kings of Judah.

Isaiah 1:1

The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, *and* Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Isaiah's name means "Jehovah is Salvation."

During the time of Isaiah, nearly the entire known world was under the control of the Assyrian Empire. Judah's King Ahaz refused to join forces with Israel and Israel attacked Judah. King Ahaz asked Assyria for help which was like asking the fox to guard the henhouse.

Isaiah warned Judah against asking the heathens for help instead of trusting the Lord. Hezekiah becomes king and he listens to Isaiah.

God sends the Chaldeans (Babylonians) to destroy the Assyrians.

But Hezekiah shows a delegation from Babylon the treasury and armory of Judah.

Because of that stupid act, Isaiah prophesies that Judah will become captive to Babylon, which of course, did come to pass.

That is just a smidgen of background to the times of Isaiah.

But what I wish to deal with is Isaiah's Jehovah. (Isa 33:22)

Who is Isaiah's God? Cf. Isaiah 6:1-3 with John 12:37-41

Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a throne and the Apostle John tells us that it was Jesus that Isaiah saw.

Isaiah 6:1-3

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts;
The whole earth *is* full of His glory!"

John is referring to Jesus:

John 12:37-41

³⁷ But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, ³⁸ that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

*"Lord, who has believed our report?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?"*

³⁹ Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again:

⁴⁰ *"He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts,
Lest they should see with their eyes,
Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,
So that I should heal them."*

⁴¹ These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

This same Isaiah wrote of the crucifixion of Christ in Chapter 53.

A REVEALED CHRIST IS ISAIAH'S SAVIOR.

Review the context of Isa 33:22 vss. 13-24

13 sinners far and near...listen up...do you not know His might?
The power of God is not hidden. Romans 1:20

14 sinners among the people of God ought to tremble with fear. Why so?
God surprises the hypocrite! The hypocrite sits with the believer and no one can tell which is which...except God. The hypocrite is deceived into thinking that God is obligated to save him. After all, "Once saved, always saved." Right?
Yes, if you are truly saved.

15-21 there is a way called righteousness; be honest in your dealings with others, be fair and generous to those in need, refuse to listen to gossip, see the beauty of the King of Kings.

**22 (For the LORD *is* our Judge,
The LORD *is* our Lawgiver,
The LORD *is* our King;
He will save us);**

23-24 It is too late for Zion (Jerusalem), but the final result will be bliss.

LET'S LOOK AT ISAIAH'S JEHOVAH:

WHO IS OUR JUDGE, OUR LAWGIVER, OUR KING, and OUR SAVIOR.

For the LORD is our Judge:

Judgment is certain!

What is the function of a judge?

God judged the angels who followed Lucifer.

Jude 6

And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

God judged Adam and Eve, Satan, and the entire creation in Genesis 3.
The judgment of God is as certain as anything in the Bible.

In opposition to skeptics who mock at the idea of eternal punishment, the Bible tells us that it is a “fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

Why judgment? God is holy.
Unless God finally and eternally deals with sin, He can not be holy.

Who is our Judge? John 5:19-23

Jesus, the One whose name is so often used as a swear-word, is the Judge of all mankind.

The LORD is our Lawgiver:

What is law?
Who has the authority to make law?
In a democratic society elected officials make law.
In a monarchy, kings and queens make law.
In anarchy there is no law.

Our Creator has the authority to make law.
God made law in Eden, in the conscience of man, and at Sinai.

Sin is the transgression of law and **Man is a sinner!**

Brother E. W. Johnson said:

No law; no sin;
No law; no guilt;
No law; no Calvary;
No law; no Savior!

Beginning at creation, God exercised His sovereign right to make Law for man.
When Adam willfully sinned against God’s first Law, he (Adam) represented the entire human race.

We all sinned in Adam and then personally accumulated a lifetime of actual sin and guilt. A person may deny their conscience, refuse to repent and believe the gospel, and continue their plunge into hell.

God's Law cannot be overruled by the Supreme Court.

Society may "vote" on morality.

Society may be dulled into accepting abortion, sodomy, assisted suicide, but society cannot change the Word of God.

Jesus said, Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." (Matthew 24:35)

Isaiah wrote, "The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever." (Isaiah 40:8)

The Lord is our King:

Jesus Christ is not a beggar!

It makes me angry to hear preachers talk about Jesus Christ as being virtually helpless in the matter of salvation. Jesus is a gentle Savior, and He does not upbraid nor scold. But Jesus is King.

He is King in Eden; He is King over Noah; He is alpha and omega.

Alleluia: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth! Revelation 19:6

Allow me an illustration of absolute sovereignty from Isaiah:

Isaiah 40:22

It is He who sits above the circle of the earth,
And its inhabitants *are* like grasshoppers,
Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

About 30 or more years ago I was spending the night in a motel in Nashville and I was fast asleep. About 2 am a cricket had found his way into my shower stall and that echo chamber acted as an amplifier and he began to chirp. One small insect can make a lot of noise.

He woke me up and I found him in the bottom of the shower stall. He had sinned against me and I had absolute power over him. He could not escape and I picked him up. I could squash him and flush him and that would be justice.

But instead I opened the door and put him in the grass.
I was his judge; his lawgiver; his king; and his savior.

Of course the comparison is not complete because I did not create the cricket.

We are like the cricket:

It is He who sits above the circle of the earth,
And its inhabitants *are* like grasshoppers,

Is the mercy of God anything but mercy?
Is the grace of God anything but grace?

Once I heard a preacher say, “No man has the right to hear the Gospel more than one time.” Sounds like he is tough on sinners?
What is wrong with that statement?

NO MAN HAS THE RIGHT TO HEAR THE GOSPEL AT ALL!
Guilty sinners have no rights!

He will save us.

What is it to be “saved?” Saved from what?

His name shall be called Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins.

Jesus Christ is THE Savior!

This is the Good News! All men are subject to:

JUDGEMENT, LAW, and SOVEREIGNTY.

But all men are not saved. There is a hell and it is inhabited by men and demons.

Isaiah’s Savior saw the travail of His soul and was satisfied.

But the Savior doesn't save hypocrites and allow them to remain hypocrites.
He doesn't save sodomites and allow them to continue to practice sodomy.
Hypocrites may fool other men, their wives, their husbands, and preachers...but
they can't fool God.

Be not deceived, God is not mocked.

Religion will not save us;
Good works will not save us;
Election and predestination will not save us: by that I mean just knowing the
doctrine.
A denomination or being a member of a local church will not save us.

Now religion, good works, correct doctrine, and local church fellowship all have a
place in the life of a believer; but only a Person; Jesus Christ will save us; if we are
ever saved.

Isaiah's Saviour saves sinners, but He saves **sinners!**

Anyone here interested in King Jesus?

Have you submitted to the authority of King Jesus?

The Judge of all men says you are guilty. Do you agree?

The Lawgiver demands obedience.
Will you continue to insist on "being your own boss?"

The King is exactly that, He is King Jesus!

Come to the Savior who has the power to save.

You may belong to ten churches and teach Sunday School four times a week and
still be lost. If you haven't trusted Jesus on His throne you may be playing a
dangerous game of church.

Repent and believe the Gospel!