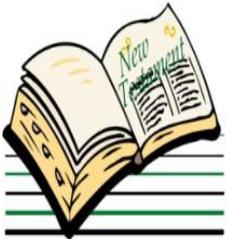


Sermon Notes



Title: "The Gospel in Isaiah: The Birth of the New Covenant Church"

Text: Isaiah 66:7-14

Theme: Isaiah gives us the big picture of the final joy and glory of God's redeemed community, a joy and peace that produces perfect satisfaction of life forever. Because of what the Servant of the LORD, Christ Jesus, has done in suffering, dying, and rising again, a new Jerusalem has come forth, a people birthed by the love and power of God.

I. The Birth of _____ (7-9)

II. A Summons to _____ in This New Reality (10-11)

III. A _____ of Those Who Belong to the New Jerusalem (12-14)

IV. Applications

A. The Church is a _____ of the Gospel.

B. A loss of _____ with the Church means you will not spiritually _____.

C. Your _____ and _____ of the Church reflect your _____ and _____ to Christ.

D. God's purpose is to _____ and _____ you by means of His Church.

Next Week Read: Isaiah 26:1-21

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. This passage uses the imagery of a woman who gives birth. What is remarkable about the way this “woman” gives birth (v. 7)?
2. What is the identity of the one birthed (v. 8b, c)?
3. What is incredible about the nature of this birth and the entity birthed (v. 8b)?
4. Who is behind this birth (v. 9)?
5. How are the people of God to respond to this incredible birth (v. 10)?
6. How will the righteous benefit from this birth (v. 11)?
7. What will be the prevailing condition of this new birth that God grants to her (v. 12a)?
8. How will the other nations respond to her [the one born] (v. 12b)?
9. What will the New Jerusalem do for her children (v. 12c)?
10. How will God bless His people through the birth of the New Zion (v. 13)?
11. Through this New Jerusalem, what will God’s people have from the LORD (v. 14a-c)?
12. Because of the existence of the New Jerusalem, what will happen to those who do not love her (v. 14d)?
13. How is the Church the New Jerusalem?
14. How was the Church “born in one day and brought forth in a moment?”
15. Is the Church itself the Gospel or is the Church a consequence of the Gospel? How is the existence of the Church good news?
16. How can the Church be a source of joy and rejoicing when many of God’s people have been hurt and wounded by the Church?
17. Does a loss of connection with the Church impoverish a believer? If so, how? Why?
18. What is your personal attitude toward the Church? Toward your own congregation?
19. Can you love Jesus and yet not love the Church? Why or why not?
20. In what ways are you growing because of the ministry of the Church? In what ways are you being hindered in your spiritual walk with Christ? How could the Church better help and prepare you in your Christian life?