

Sunday, April 19, 2020

God is My Salvation – Isaiah

76. The Song of the Barren – Isaiah 54:1-17

The Servant provides a family, a (home) household of peace, and a (secure society) city founded on righteousness.

- I. A Supernatural Family – vs. 1-5
 - A. Sing and Shout for Joy – blessings provided by another’s efforts (vs. 1)
 - 1. Barren – no natural possibility of a heritage or future
 - 2. More – the Servant’s seed have become her children – Isaiah 51:2
 - 3. N natural explanation – the Lord’s people (church) are created by spiritual birth – John 1:13; 3:3
 - B. Anticipate Growth – get ready, make room (vs. 2-3)
 - 1. Expansion – Matt. 16:15-18
 - 2. Possession – Psa. 2:8; Matt. 5:5; Rev. 2:26; 7:9-10
 - C. Have Confidence Facing the Future (vs. 4-5)
 - 1. Do not fear (the future)
 - 2. Move on from the past – shame, disgrace, humiliation
 - 3. Your Maker and Redeemer is God
 - 4. He is Sovereign over all the earth – the Almighty in relation to the realities of life on earth – Psa. 100:3; 24:1; 47:2; 89:11; 135:6
- II. A Restored Marriage – vs. 6-10
 - A. A Wayward Wife Called Home (vs. 6)
 - 1. The Servant has “saved” the marriage – Hos. 3:1
 - 2. Our assurance is found in the Word of God – “says your God”
 - B. Assurance – vs. 7-9 – all because of Isaiah 53
 - 1. Compassion (mercy) conquers rejection and abandonment
 - 2. Love overcomes wrath
 - 3. A divine promise gives assurance as justice is satisfied – Gen. 9:12-17
 - C. Permanence (vs. 10)
 - 1. A Covenant of Peace
 - 2. Rests on the sacrifice of the Servant
- III. A Righteous City – vs. 11-17
 - A. The City Beautified (vs. 11-12) – stones set in colored mortar to highlight brilliance
 - B. Foundations of Righteousness (vs. 13-14)
 - 1. Disciples = taught by the Lord
 - 2. Abundant peace – enjoying what the Servant has accomplished
 - 3. Tyranny (inside) and Terror (outside) are removed – no cause for fear
 - C. The City Secured (vs. 15-17)
 - 1. Attacks will come, they will fail
 - 2. Human skill, mechanical device, evil purpose, and outcome are all under the sovereign disposal of the Creator
 - 3. All assaults (weapons formed) and accusations (tongues rising in judgment) will fail at depriving God’s people of what the Lord has given them – You will not be disinherited – You are the Lord’s! – Rom. 8:33-34
 - 4. Imputed righteousness – 2 Cor. 5:21

Intro: Two themes that started in chapter 40 find their prophesied fulfillments here in chapters 54 and 55. God promised to bring divine truth to the Gentiles and to restore the survivors of Israel. Chapter 54 gives us the reasons for the comforting of Zion and chapter 55 is the call of the gospel to the thirsty and wicked to come to the tent that has been enlarged by the work of the Servant.

Isaiah 54-55 also tell us about the blessings pledged for all for whom the Servant died and the response to those blessings from the redeemed. They will sing, enlarge their tents (increase), come to the banquet, and seek the Lord.

The Servant has done everything, removing sin, establishing righteousness, creating a family (His seed), and the response is to sing and shout for joy over what someone else has accomplished and to enjoy a feast for which someone else has paid!

Isaiah 54:17 No weapon formed against you shall prosper,
And every tongue which rises against you in judgment
You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness is from Me,"
Says the Lord.

This verse, so often quoted by those who hope and believe that no malady, calamity, or pandemic can touch a Christian, do not mean and cannot be taken to support the idea that Christians are immune from suffering, sickness, and even death. This verse does not provide a super-duper invisible Holy Spirit force field for the children of God.

Within the context of the chapter, and looking at what the verse actually says, we learn that any assault (weapon formed against you) or accusation (tongue rising in judgment) will fail to deprive God's people of what the Lord has given them. In other words - no matter what the world does or says against us, we will not be dis-inherited.

Christian - this verse gives you this great assurance - YOU ARE THE LORD'S PURCHASED POSSESSION and nothing done or said against you by anyone will be able in any way to separate you from the love of God given to you in Christ Jesus.

This verse is not about being well or wealthy. It is about being secure.

The world, doing its worst, may be able to kill your body, but they cannot snatch you away from God's grip.

Paul sums it up for us in Romans 8:33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Christian, you may get sick, suffer, and die, but you are safe in the arms of Jesus.