

Let's Worship God

6th-11th November 2023

Isaiah



Isaiah

Isaiah

Monday - Isaiah 2:1-5 - The Mountain of the Lord

What is this mountain that is being spoken of here? The mountain is a picture of the people of God, a picture of the church of Jesus Christ. The Church, as Jesus says in His Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:14, is the city on a hill, and the Gospel will go and is going to all the world. Here is a picture of the faith and the people of God: Firmly rooted, immovable, strong, mighty, massive. The faith is firmly founded and rooted just as the mountains are rooted in the earth. The Church of Jesus Christ is founded upon the rock of salvation.

The population of this mountain is from all nations. Some say that people in the Old Testament had no idea about the coming of the church or the church age or how Jews and Gentiles would be put together. But that is exactly what this picture is about here. This is a picture of what will happen in the church in our day, in these New Testament days. Here is a picture of people coming from all nations. People are eager to do so, and encouraging one another to come in.

In the mountain there is peace with God since the inhabitants are justified by faith. As the mountain fills all the earth, it brings, and it alone can bring, peace on Earth. There are many things that people look to, to bring peace on Earth. But these things cannot. Hearts are still evil, and societies are still corrupted. The only one who can bring peace is He who rules in Zion, the Lord Jesus Christ.

When does all this happen? In the last days. These days in which we live are the last days, and they have been since the resurrection of Jesus Christ. They have been since Pentecost. We are living in the last days (Hebrews 1:2). The prophecy is not completely brought about yet, but it is going on now. We finish here with an exhortation from God to those who profess to be His people. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. We have the light of the Lord right here in the Scripture. So let us seek to be walking in holiness. Let us be giving Him praise.

Questions

1. What are these verses a picture of?
2. What is the only thing that can bring peace on earth?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the way that Christ is building His Church in all the world.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” Isaiah 2:3b

Praise: Psalm 53 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Tuesday - Isaiah 2:6-9 - The Shame of God's People

Isaiah says that God has forsaken the house of Jacob. Why is that? Because they are not heeding the Word of God. They are interested in conforming to the culture around them. What they're doing is capitulating, giving up, throwing away that which is distinctive, and yielding to the sensibilities and the sins of the nations. But while we are to engage with those in the culture around us, it is so that they will be plucked as brands from the burning, not that we will get sucked into their muck.

People were saying, "What is the matter? Why does God exhort us through the prophet that we need to come and walk in the light of the Lord? Why, we not only have these new perspectives, we have wealth and plenty. God must be pleased with us. Isn't everything fine?" Their land is full of silver and gold, their land is full of horses. Their land is also full of what? Full of idols.

What are the consequences of this shame? Shame it is that the people of God should be trusting in and resting in these things instead of their God who has saved them and delivered them. The first consequence is in verse 6: "you have rejected your people, the house of Jacob." The people of God are abandoned by their God for their sin. God leaves them in their idolatry. It happened before the Babylonian captivity, and it's happened to the Jews since their rejection of Jesus. We give thanks that the abandonment is not entire. There are some Jews who've come to Jesus. The abandonment is not final, as we see in Romans 11, but it's gone on for nearly 2000 years now. The other consequence we see in verse 9. People bow down and each man humbles himself before these idols! Therefore there is no forgiveness. No one comes through the Mediator whom God has provided. We must make sure that this shame is not within us. We are not to capitulate to the culture around us. We are to confront and transform the culture. We are always and only to use wealth and power to exalt Jesus and to rest in Him alone.

Questions

1. What were the people trusting in?
2. What were the consequences of this?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would live holy lives.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." Isaiah 2:3b

Praise: Psalm 54 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Wednesday - Isaiah 2:10-17 - The High Brought Low

What does God do with those who trust in ideas from afar? What does he do with those who feel secure behind their wealth, who are proud of their power and their military greatness, who are feeling as though they are safe with their idols? First, He afflicts and terrifies them, as we see in verse 10. They think they're safe, but they are not. Things would become very frightening, very scary for them very soon. How unlike people who come to conviction of their sin by God's grace and who take themselves to rest upon and be safe in the rock of Jesus Christ. But that is not the picture here. These people claim to be the people of God, but they are not. Instead of resting in Jesus, what they're trying to do here is to hide from God and somehow protect themselves, not in Jesus, but in earthly rocks. They want to hide in the dust. But how do you hide from God? Those who will not flee to Him in Jesus Christ will have to try to flee away from Him, frightened and terrified.

He humbles proud sinners, so that He alone will be exalted, as we see here in verse 11. There is no room ultimately for any glory but the glory of God. There is no room in Isaiah's day, nor is there now for the exaltation of the state, of one's country, of one's own works, righteousness, personal power, affluence, authority, intelligence, etc. God in Christ is the only one who must be, who shall be exalted. That was true in Isaiah's day; it is true in our day. How shall this happen? We see in verse 12. Humbling judgments bring about the humiliation. This is how it happens even today to nations, societies, cultures, and peoples that pit themselves against the Messiah. Isaiah gives some examples in verses 13 through 16.

For us who are believers, this is good news. For although Christ's enemies look to be many and strong, they cannot win. All their great boasts, all their proud speech, all that they plan to do and intend to do shall ultimately come to nothing.

Questions

1. What will God do to those who trust in things other than Him?
2. Who is the only one who should be exalted?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would give God all the glory in our lives.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” Isaiah 2:3b

Praise: Psalm 55 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Thursday - Isaiah 2:18-22 - Foolishness of Idols

Besides trusting in other things which in a very real way were idols themselves, the people of Judah have actual idols that they trust in. How foolish. But this isn't something recent. It has been a sin for God's people for quite some time.

What would God do with these idols? What would God do with these who worship the idols? Underneath all is an ongoing attitude problem of wanting to depart from Jehovah God and to trust in other things. How foolish it is to trust in things that they themselves have made. How can these false gods deliver people? How can they make their lives useful? How can they give any meaning to the lives of their worshippers? We see here what happens to the idols. Not only are they unable to do anything to help those who worship them, these so called gods who really don't exist, their representations are thrown away because when Jehovah comes to judge, it's made evident who the real, living and true God is. These worshippers of idols see that all that they've put their trust in, all that they've invested their lives in, are worthless. In fact, they are worse than worthless. They're a positive offense to the only living and true God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent. And so they try to get rid of the evidence. The idols go into the holes of the earth. They go into the caves of the earth.

Isaiah closes then with this warning to the remnant, to those who do not merely claim to be the people of God, but who truly are. Cut yourself off from such men as these. Depart from the wicked. Depart from the hypocrites. Get yourself away from them. They may have had seemingly a good profession at one time, but now they are sliding off or they have slidden off into wickedness and idolatry. Do not hold to those who fight against Zion's king and who fight against His Word.

Questions

1. Why is idol worship so foolish?
2. What does Isaiah warn them to do?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” Isaiah 2:3b

Praise: Psalm 56 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Friday - Isaiah 3:1-4:1 - Judgement on High Society

In verses 1-3 God takes away the very supports of society, the supports of individual life, bread and water. He also takes away the supports of national, social and cultural life. For not only does he take away the food and the water, but all the leaders of society as well. Everything is about to fall apart -- not by magic, not by bad luck, but because of judgment from the Lord.

In verses 4-5 we see the land falling into confusion and disorder with the rulers either being literal children or else those who have the childish qualities of being willful, petulant, impulsive, and short sighted. We see those who are low and dishonorable taking over; people oppressing their neighbours; and the child being insolent toward the elder and the base toward the honorable. It sounds very much like our own society today. In verses 6-7 we see not only society in general falling apart, but we see even local and family government falling to pieces.

Why does God do all this? In verse 8, there is outright hatred and defiance of God. We see the further impudence in verse 9. The people are not trying to sin in secret anymore. They do not hide it. There's a delight in sin. We see oppression going on in verses 12-15. These who were high and mighty, who should have been the protectors of the people, who should have been seeking their welfare, who should have been serving them, who were given power and authority in order to tend to and shepherd the people, were oppressing them horribly.

The women are vain, immoral, and proud. We see all these things that they do, and all the pleasant perfumes, and all the fashionable jewelry, and the fashionable clothes. But all this is to be completely overturned. The same God judges nations even today.

Questions

1. What kind of judgement does God bring?
2. Why does He bring this judgement?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for our nation.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” Isaiah 2:3b

Praise: Psalm 57 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Saturday - Isaiah 3:10-11 - Safety in Christ

The words in verse 10 can be applied especially to the Lord Jesus Christ. For who of us have been righteous? Who of the people in Isaiah's day had been righteous? Ultimately it is Jesus Who is "the Lord our righteousness." It has been well for Him. He went to the cross, despising the shame for the joy set before Him. He did eat the fruit of His deeds. To Him was given all things. But because He is the head and we are the body, because He is the husband, we are the bride, because of that, we partake of this promise as well. We have no righteousness of ourselves, but in God's sight we have the righteousness of Jesus. Because of that, the reward mentioned here, and the promise of well being is for us as well. The godly are kept safe. Even though destruction is whirling about them, even though there is difficulty, and even though there is affliction through it, they are kept safe.

For the wicked, as we see in verse 11, the application is quite the opposite. Things are not well for them, though they, too, get their reward. They're riding high at the moment, but soon Messiah the Prince will smash them. We see all kinds of wickedness in society today, and we think, how can we stand against it? It must triumph, we think. We see all sorts of powers ranged against us with seemingly growing strength, and we fear that there is no hope. Perhaps some of the godly in Isaiah's day thought the same. We're mistaken when we think so. For us, there is redemption coming. For us there is rescue coming. We've been delivered already. We are in Jesus Christ and saved from our greatest enemy, and that is sin. Difficulties that come to you personally, difficulties that come to you because you're part of a society being judged - through all of them you shall be delivered. This judgment shall fall on those who fight against the Lord and against His Messiah. But for you there shall be deliverance, full and entire.

Question

1. How is verse 10 applied to Christ?
2. What promises do we have as believers.

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

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." Isaiah 2:3b

Praise: Psalm 58 - 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
by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

If you have any queries please contact - rpchurchscotland@gmail.com