

Sunday, January 26, 2020

God is My Salvation – Isaiah

64. God Reigns – Isaiah 52:1-12

Twenty-three years ago today (in 1997, when I was 26 years old), I preached a message in view of a call to come to Round Rock, resulting within weeks after that of the planting of our church.

- I. A New Condition – vs. 1-2
 - A. Awake (vs. 1)
 1. Zion believed the Lord needed to be awakened – Isa. 51:9 (like Baal? 1 Kings 18:27)
 2. Get up and get dressed – quote #1
 - a. Enjoy and display the garments of splendor, strength, and beauty (glory) – Ex. 28:2
 - b. Being the priestly people you were called to be requires holiness – Ex. 19:4-6
 - 1) Separate – no uncircumcision, no unclean thing
 - 2) Legitimate covenant people
 - B. Shake (vs. 2)
 1. The dust of humiliation
 2. The chains of slavery
 3. Moral and spiritual bondage – 1 Sam. 30:1; 2 Sam. 1:1; 2:1-4; Psa. 113:7-8
 4. Put off the old, put on the new – Col. 3:9-10; Rev. 1:4-8
 5. When? Not Yet
- II. A Free Redemption – vs. 3-6
 - A. The Past – certain redemption (vs. 3-4)
 1. Sold – passing to new ownership, but redeemable, for nothing (without cause they sold themselves)
 2. Redeemed, but without money – with what? (we are not told yet)
 3. Thus says the LORD GOD
 - a. Yahweh – the Exodus Redeemer – Ex. 6:6-7
 - b. Adonai – Sovereign – the irresistible Ruler
 - c. Remember, Israel went to Egypt willingly for relief from famine
 - d. When circumstances changed the people cried out and God redeemed them – Ex. 3:7-8
 - e. Now (lately) Assyria is oppressing and the Lord helped – Isa. 37:6-7, 36-38
 - f. Egypt to Assyria – the A to Z of Oppression for Israel and God always delivered them
 - B. The Present – the Lord’s dishonored name (vs. 5)
 1. The Lord is moved by His people’s misery – Ex. 32:11-14
 2. The Lord is moved by His dishonored name – Joshua 7:7-9
 - C. The Future – coming Divine revelation (vs. 6)
 1. Therefore, therefore – double emphasis, excitement
 2. Something is going to reinforce all that His name means
 3. When this happens the Lord will be present in Word and in Person
 4. “Behold Me!” – God’s Self-Revelation, His Son – Heb. 1:1-3
 5. How? When? – not explained, but the text moves to after the redemptive act to the coming of the victorious Lord
- III. Resounding Joy – vs. 7-10
 - A. The Messengers Message (vs. 7)
 1. A runner with news! – Isa. 37:36-37; 2 Sam. 18:24-28
 2. Peace – the threat and war is ended

3. Good News – no bad news, a welcome word
 4. Salvation – the power of the oppressor is broken and those in bondage released
 5. Your God Reigns – the Kingship and Divine Rule of God is affirmed and demonstrated
 6. A Kingship perceived by faith has now been seen and the Victor Himself will appear face to face
 7. See Psa. 93:1; 97:1; 99:1; Rom. 10:14-21
- B. The Watchmen's Song (vs. 8)
1. The waiting people hear a buzz of excitement on the wall
 2. Singing, shouting, joy!
 3. They will see it with total clarity – Jer. 32:4
 4. Following after the runner with his announcement comes the King – Isa. 40:3; Mal. 3:1; Luke 3:4
- C. The City Rejoicing (vs. 9-10)
1. The song spreads
 2. God comforts His people, redeeming them
 3. The Lord is revealed to the world in power – He rolls up His sleeves!
- IV. A Greater Exodus – vs. 11-12
- A. Liberation from Bondage and Restoration to the Lord – Luke 1:74-75
- B. When Bondage Ends, Pilgrimage Begins
- C. A Call (vs. 11)
1. Go out, touch no unclean thing
 2. Come out, be pure and holy
 3. All who are part of this new exodus are priests to the Lord – 1 Peter 2:9-10
- D. Calm Assurance (vs. 12)
1. You will go, no in haste or distraction
 2. The Lord will go before you and behind you – Joshua 6:9; Ex. 13:21; 14:19
 3. Secure in the holy enclave of the presence of God – Heb. 13:5-6

Quote #1 - "So hard is it to maintain faith in a dark day that it is simpler to question the character of God than to walk in patience and trust." - JA Motyer, Commentary on Isaiah 52:1