

Isaiah 61

“To Preach Good Tidings”

Text: Isaiah 61

Introduction:

1. God had promised that the seed of woman would crush the head of the serpent and the enemy of man would be defeated (Genesis 3:15).
2. He showed that this victory would include blessedness for all through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3).
3. This Victor would be a mediator (Job 19:23-27), a ruler (Genesis 49:10), a star (Numbers 24:17), a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), a priest (1 Samuel 2:35), and a king (1 Samuel 2:10) - ruling from the throne of David (1 Chronicles 17:11-14).
4. During the time of David, the “sweet psalmist of Israel” (2 Samuel 23:1) recorded many prophecies of Jesus in the Psalms.
5. In the writings of the prophets, much more detail about the coming Messiah was given.
6. Isaiah declared that the Messiah would become man’s propitiation - the suitable sacrifice for sin...

I. THE BACKGROUND

- A. The name Isaiah means, “Jehovah is salvation,” “salvation is of Jehovah,” or “Jehovah saves.”
- B. Chapters 1 - 39 of Isaiah detail judgment from God on the nations of the world, including Israel and Judah.
- C. Chapters 40 - 66 record comfort from God in promises of Israel’s return and the coming of the Messiah.
- D. Chapters 60 - 62 discuss the glory of Zion.
 1. This pertained to the return from captivity and the rebuilding of Jerusalem.
 2. However, the ultimate fulfillment of these chapters is the establishing of the church by the Messiah.
- E. A breakdown of this section:
 1. 60:1-3 - Glory in the Light of God
 2. 60:4-9 - Glory in the Salvation of God
 3. 60:10-14 - Glory in the Mercy of God
 4. 60:15-18 - Glory in the Blessings of God
 5. 60:19-22 - Glory in the Presence of God
 6. 61:1-3 - Glory in the Preaching of the Gospel
 7. 61:4-9 - Glory in the Service of a Christian
 8. 61:10-11 - Glory in the Praise of Jehovah
 9. 62:1-5 - Glory in the New Name
 10. 62:6-9 - Glory in the Protection of God
 11. 62:10-12 - Glory in the Redemption from Sin

II. PROPHECY OF THE PREACHING OF JESUS (ISAIAH 61:1-3)

- A. The speaker is the Servant - Jesus the Christ (cf. Luke 4:16-22).
- B. Spiritual Zion is glorious because God would anoint Jesus through the Holy Spirit to establish this kingdom by the preaching of the Gospel (cf. Acts 10:38)!

Prophecy of Jesus

1. Isaiah has revealed much about the unity of work with Jesus and the Holy Spirit (11:2-3; 42:1; 48:16; 49:8; 50:4; 59:21).
2. There is always perfect unity with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C. Jesus would preach good news to the meek.
 1. The Gospel is good news – of salvation from sin.
 2. However, it would be accepted only by the meek and humble (cf. Matthew 5:3-5; 11:5, 29; 21:5).
- D. Jesus would bind up and heal the brokenhearted.
 1. The word for “bind up” means to wrap or to bandage.
 2. Jesus offers healing to those whose hearts have been crushed by sin (cf. 57:15; Psalm 34:18; 51:17; 147:3; 2 Corinthians 7:6).
- E. Jesus would proclaim liberty to the captive.
 1. Liberty “is a technical term for the release of debtors and slaves in the fiftieth year, the year of jubilee (Lev. 25:10; Jer. 34:8, 15)” [Hailey].
 2. Those held captive by Satan and sin are offered freedom (cf. 42:7; John 8:32-36; Acts 26:18; Romans 6:16-18; 2 Timothy 2:25-26).
- F. Jesus would proclaim the acceptable year of Jehovah.
 1. The ASV renders this as “the year of Jehovah’s favor.”
 2. The acceptable time is the period during which God’s grace is made available to man – the Christian dispensation (cf. 2 Corinthians 6:2).
- G. Jesus would proclaim the day of God’s vengeance.
 1. The day of vengeance is when God’s grace is no longer accessible.
 - a. End of one’s life
 - b. Judgment upon a nation
 - c. End of the world / Day of Judgment
 2. This is a day of salvation for those who are faithful and obedient.
- H. Jesus would comfort those who mourn (Matthew 5:4; Luke 7:44-50; 2 Cor. 1:3-5).
 1. By giving them beauty (garland, headdress) for ashes (vs. 10)
 2. By giving them the oil of joy instead of mourning (cf. Psalm 23:5; John 16:20)
 3. By giving them garments of praise instead of a heavy (weak, infirm, faint) spirit (cf. Luke 15:22; Revelation 7:9-14).
- I. Jesus would plant the righteous as trees that bear fruit of honor and glory to God (cf. Matthew 7:17-19; John 15:8).
- J. This Gospel that Jesus preached is the same that we must proclaim!

Conclusion: **We have Good News that must be shared with the world!**