

God's people to tell of His acts of redemption...to remember! How does remembering God's faithfulness to YOU bring you strength in times of difficulty?

Thinking Deeper & Taking It Home

Remember the texts in Revelation from Sunday? Take the time to read them in order: 18:1-10; 21:1-5; and 22:1-5. How does it encourage you to know the "final score"?

Time to PRAY

(Or do this at the beginning of your group time)

Take time to share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group, and then pray for those needs. Here's a place to list specific prayer needs:

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Palm Sunday Worship: April 10, 2022

"The Glory Of Christ In Submission And Obedience"

(John 12:12-50)

Pastor Jay Mosser

Answer Key: ▪ time of need ▪ ultimacy ▪ world power ▪ bow the knee ▪ proudly ▪ pay attention

Sermon Notes – April 3, 2022

Review

- Isaiah was a spokesman for God about 2,750 years ago, and it is stunning that the lengthy book that bears his name speaks so clearly to us today! God is the same as He was then. He still oversees nations, and He still purposes to redeem His people.
- We have seen God use the term "servant" to refer to the nation of Israel, the pagan King Cyrus, and the coming Messiah King. In each use, God's trustworthy sovereignty is emphasized.
- Last week we saw God's supreme authority grounded in two areas: His merciful work in redemption, and His unrivaled power in creating all that exists.

Today's text: Isaiah 46:1-48:22 (Cf. Nahum 1:9)

Our text today concludes the sub-section of Isaiah 40-48 in which one of the main points is that the God of the Bible is the only one who knows the future. He alone can call a coming leader by name. This concluding section is a preview of the ultimate future of all things: **God wins. Godless kingdoms fall. God's people will be redeemed.**

The End Of All Things Is Not In Doubt: God Wins!

(46:1-13)

- ⇒ Martin Luther wrote, "A god is that to which we look for all good and in which we find refuge in every _____."
- ⇒ The God of the Bible alone is the living God. Unlike false gods that leave you empty, God says, "I am He...I will carry you" (4).
- ⇒ God affirms His _____ by His ability to act in human history and to announce and control the future (5-7 & 10).
- ⇒ He WILL accomplish His purposes in human history (11b).
- ⇒ Do you hear God's stunning promises to bring righteousness to those who have none...to redeem...to bring salvation? (12-13)
- ⇒ READ Revelation 21:1-5

Ultimate Victory Is Certain: Godless Kingdoms Will Fall!

(47:1, 5-10)

- ⇒ Even before Babylon was a _____, God was foretelling its fall!
- ⇒ From the beginning of time (Remember the Tower of Babel?) and down through the pages of history, godless kingdoms rise...and they fall. The prophets in the Bible are full of God's pronouncements of judgment on the nations for their refusal to _____ to Him, for unjust treatment of people, and for their unabashed pride. **This is a major theme in the Bible.**
- ⇒ This text in Isaiah is similar to Jeremiah 50 – “out of the north a nation [shall] come up against her” and “she has _____ defied the Lord, the Holy One of Israel” (50:3, 29).
- ⇒ Remember Nebuchadnezzar's pride in Daniel 4:28-37?
 - “Is not this great Babylon that I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?” (30)
 - “Those who walk in pride He is able to humble” (37)
- ⇒ READ Revelation 18:1-10

Mercy Triumphs: God's People Will Be Redeemed! (48)

- ⇒ God's call to _____ is prominent! (1, 12, 14, 16)
- ⇒ Watch the progression of thought:
 - “I know you are stubborn” (4)
 - “I have refined you...I have tried you...for my own sake” (10-11)
 - “Oh, that you had paid attention” (18)
 - “Go out of Babylon...with a shout of joy...send it out to the end of the earth: **The Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob!**” (20)
- ⇒ READ Revelation 22:1-5

Responding to God's Word in Worship & Obedience

- ⇒ But wait, you say: Where is the part about God's people earning His favor by good behavior? Right! It's not there! This is gracious, unmerited, lavish grace from a just **and** merciful God.
- ⇒ In this story of God's deliverance, we see a foretaste of the gospel of Jesus – full, unmerited favor for lost, hopeless, still-striving sinners like us. Oh, the **“marvelous grace of our loving Lord!”**
- ⇒ Communion text: Titus 3:4-7

Community Group Notes

Getting Started

April is here! That means that spring is here for sure, bringing with it flowers, slightly warmer weather, more daylight hours, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter – all reasons to celebrate. What is your favorite part of April?

Talking It Through

1. Review the sermon from Sunday: READ Isaiah 46:1-13; 47:5-10; 48:9-13, 20-21 and remember the main points from Sunday. In summary form, what was this week's sermon about?
2. Once again, God goes after the human propensity to find God-substitutes, whether they are physical images or anything else. Using Martin Luther's definition in the sermon notes, come up with a list of a dozen things that people put in that category? Where do people tend to turn in “times of need”?
3. Do you hear the gospel in 46:12-13? Think carefully on this and take some time – what NT texts do you “hear” in these verses?
4. The world around us often measures the value of people by their net worth or their charitable actions or their influence. In 47:8 & 10, Babylon of old describes itself in godlike terms: “I am, and there is no one besides me.” What would cause a nation or culture or generation to think of itself as ultimate, the center of the known world, the most important, invincible, the ones who truly know things?
5. Remember the progression of thought in chapter 48? God had judged in righteousness and then redeemed His still-sinful people! 47:20-21 invites