

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## **“He Has Done Gloriously”**

**Focal Passage: Isaiah 11-12 (ESV)**

### **BIBLE IN A YEAR READING PLAN**

Mar 19 Judges 3-5                      Mar 23 Judges 13-15  
Mar 20 Judges 6-7                      Mar 24 Judges 16-18  
Mar 21 Judges 8-9                      Mar 25 Judges 19-21  
Mar 22 Judges 10-12

**Cross References: 1 Samuel 16:1, Ruth 4:22, Isaiah 4:2, 1 Samuel 16:13, Psalm 51:11, Ezekiel 36:27, 1 Corinthians 2:14, 2 Corinthians 12:3, James 1:5, Jonah 2:9, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Matthew 14:15, Romans 5:8-10, Colossians 1:21-22, Ephesians 1:5-14, Isaiah 43:6-8, Isaiah 53:4-10, 1 John 2:2, Romans 8:1, 2 Corinthians 5:21**

### **FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS OF THE PASSAGE:**

- **The Spirit of God brings wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and the fear of the Lord (Ch. 11:3).**
- **The Reign of Christ will bring everlasting peace (Ch. 11:6-9).**
- **The Lord saves people from every nation, tribe, and tongue, according to His grace (Ch. 11:10-16).**
- **The proper response to salvation is the praise of God’s glorious grace (Ch. 12).**

**Lesson Idea: God brings salvation through Christ, by the Spirit, to all nations, to the praise of His glorious grace.**

### **Isaiah 11**

1 *There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.*  
2 *And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.*  
3 *And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,*  
4 *but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.*

5 *Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.*

6 *The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.*

7 *The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.*

8 *The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.*

9 *They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*

10 *In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.*

11 *In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea.*

12 *He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.*

13 *The jealousy of Ephraim shall depart, and those who harass Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not be jealous of Judah, and Judah shall not harass Ephraim.*

14 *But they shall swoop down on the shoulder of the Philistines in the west, and together they shall plunder the people of the east. They shall put out their hand against Edom and Moab, and the Ammonites shall obey them.*

15 *And the Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt, and will wave his hand over the River with his scorching breath, and strike it into seven channels, and he will lead people across in sandals.*

16 *And there will be a highway from Assyria for the remnant that remains of his people, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt.*

DISCUSSION:

• V. 1

-Why is Israel referred to as *"the stump of Jesse"*? (1 Samuel 16:1, Ruth 4:22)

-Who is the *"branch"* a reference to? (Isaiah 4:2)

**Note:** Although we have seen that Israel and Judah would be cut down, and brought into captivity, here Isaiah is prophesying hope. Verses 2-5 reveal Christ to be this *"branch,"* and they speak of His future reign.

• V. 2-5

-What do these verses tell us about the source of power in Christ's reign? How is this similar to David's reign? (1 Samuel 16:13, Psalm 51:11)

-What do these verses tell us about the source of *"wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and fear of the Lord"*? (Ezekiel 36:27, 1 Corinthians 2:14, 2 Corinthians 12:3, James 1:5)

**Note:** These verses paint a beautiful picture of the Godhead at work. Christ reigns and rules as a King anointed by the *"Spirit of the Lord."* This means Christ's eternal reign will consist of perfect *"wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and fear of the Lord."*

These verses should serve as a reminder to believers that any wisdom, understanding, knowledge, or fear of the Lord that we possess comes from the Spirit of the Lord Himself! Charles Spurgeon understood this well. Below is an excerpt from his devotional, *Morning and Evening*: *"Salvation is the work of God. It is he alone who quickens the soul "dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1), and it is he also who maintains the soul in its spiritual life. He is both "Alpha and Omega." "Salvation is of the Lord." If I am prayerful, God makes me prayerful; if I have graces, they are God's gifts to me; if I hold on in a consistent life, it is because he upholds me with his hand. I do nothing whatever towards my own preservation, except what God himself first does in me. Whatever I have, all my goodness is of the Lord alone. Wherein I sin, that is my own; but wherein I act rightly, that is of God, wholly and completely. If I have repulsed a spiritual enemy, the Lord's strength nerved my arm. Do I live before men a consecrated life? It is not I, but Christ who liveth in*

*me. Am I sanctified? I did not cleanse myself: God's Holy Spirit sanctifies me. Am I weaned from the world? I am weaned by God's chastisements sanctified to my good. Do I grow in knowledge? The great Instructor teaches me. All my jewels were fashioned by heavenly art. I find in God all that I want; but I find in myself nothing but sin and misery. 'He only is my rock and my salvation.' Do I feed on the Word? That Word would be no food for me unless the Lord made it food for my soul, and helped me to feed upon it. Do I live on the manna which comes down from heaven? What is that manna but Jesus Christ himself incarnate, whose body and whose blood I eat and drink? Am I continually receiving fresh increase of strength? Where do I gather my might? My help cometh from heaven's hills: without Jesus I can do nothing. As a branch cannot bring forth fruit except it abide in the vine, no more can I, except I abide in him. What Jonah learned in the great deep, let me learn this morning in my closet: 'Salvation is of the Lord' (Jonah 2:9)."*

• V. 6-9

-What do these verses tell us about the nature of Christ's reign?

-What does the second half of V. 9 tell us about how this peaceful transformation of creation will come about?

**Note:** In 2 Corinthians 3:18, we see that transformation in the Christian life comes as we behold God's glory. V. 9 of our passage today seems to be saying that the reason there will be no more destruction, and the reason that peace will reign, is due to the fact that *"the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord."* Truths like this should challenge us to have a deep longing to know more of who God is. Too often in our Christian walks, we become very self-centered, and believe that transformation will come about when we try harder to follow a set of moralistic rules. While obeying the Lord's commandments is certainly part of the Christian life (Matthew 14:15), V. 9 and 2 Corinthians 3:18 reveal that transformation starts with knowing God more fully. As we behold His glory, and understand more of His nature through the study of His Word, change begins to take place in our lives, and peace starts to reign where chaos once abounded.

• **V. 10-16**

-What do these people tell us about the makeup of the people of God?

-How does **V. 11** speak to the immensity of God's grace? (**Romans 5:8-10, Colossians 1:21-22**)

**Note:** As we consider the nations named in **V. 11**, it should be stunning that God is gathering a remnant for Himself from countries such as Assyria and Egypt! Both nations defied God, and waged war against His people, and yet here, we see the grace of God extended to His enemies. Scripture is clear that we too were once His enemies, but by His grace we have been made His sons and daughters.

**Note:** Chapter 12 consists of two songs of praise to the Lord for the work of salvation described in chapter 11. These songs proclaim wonderful truths about our redemption through Christ, and remind us that the result of our salvation should always be the "praise of His glorious grace." (**Ephesians 1:5-6**).

**Isaiah 12**

1 You will say in that day:

"I will give thanks to you, O Lord,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me.

2 "Behold, God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the Lord God is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation."

3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. 4 And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the Lord,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

5 "Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

6 Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

**DISCUSSION:**

• **V. 1-6**

-What do these verses teach us about the proper response to being saved by grace? What is the ultimate purpose of our salvation? (**Isaiah 43:6-8, Ephesians 1:5-14**)

-How is it that the God's "anger [has been] turned away."? (**Isaiah 53:4-10, 1 John 2:2**)

**Note:** In order for us to fully praise God for the love and grace He has shown toward us, it is vital that we also understand His wrath toward sin, and the price that Christ paid to free us from that wrath. Every one of us deserves the full wrath of God poured out on us (**Romans 3:10-12, 23, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:3**), yet Christ has absorbed every bit of it for those who are His (**Romans 8:1, 2 Corinthians 5:21**). Our only response to such a glorious truth should be, "praise His glorious grace!"

-How do you, "make known His deeds among the peoples"?

**APPLICATION:**

- ✓ What does this passage teach us about God?
- ✓ How might those truths encourage and strengthen you this week?

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