

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

HOPE FOR GOOD LEADERSHIP Sunday School- December 19, 2010

Unifying Topic: THE MISSION OF THE SERVANT

Lesson Text

I. A Just And Peaceful Reign (Isaiah 9:7)

II. A Kingdom Of Righteousness (Isaiah 11:1-8)

The Main Thought: And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. (Isaiah 11:5 KJV)

Unifying Principle: People need someone with authority who will take responsibility for leading them. Who can be the leader of the people? God will send a leader and give that leader complete authority. That leader is Jesus, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born from the line of Jesse and David.

Lesson Aim: To help students appreciate how God establishes a peaceful and righteous kingdom.

Life aim: To teach how God will establish a kingdom through His Spirit by the Messiah that will be characterized by peace, justice, and righteousness in which people and animals will live together in unity and harmony.

9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

11:2 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 of the fear of the LORD;

11:3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears;

11:4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

11:5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins

11:6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

11:7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

11:8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

HISTORY:

Chapter nine of Isaiah ¹stands out as an oasis in the wilderness of God's judgment against apostasy and unbelief. It is the third chapter with obvious messianic prophecy. It serves as a transition between the prophecy of gloom and darkness of Chapter 8 because the light is promised in Chapter 9.

9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. As we come from verse 5, ²for our benefit, the Prophet saw in a vision the darkness and gloom of the nation, but now sees also the child that would be born to remove that darkness, and to enlighten the world. The child—the Messiah was not born when the Prophet spake, but in prophetic vision, as the events of the future passed before his mind, he saw that promised Son, and the eye was fixed intently upon Him. Birth indicates the beginning of something. The end of war depends upon the coming of a person, a royal person yet one never explicitly called a king here.

LESSON:

Isaiah 9:7 A Just And Peaceful Reign

9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end—³His princely rule shall perpetually increase and be unlimited. It shall be multiplied; the bounds of His kingdom shall be more and more enlarged, and many shall be added to it daily. His peaceable and happy government shall be extended to all the ends of the earth.

¹ <http://www.wlsessays.net/files/DobbersteinIsaiah.pdf>

² <http://bible.cc/isaiah/9-6.htm>

³ <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/henry/mhc4.ls.x.html>

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sundayschool.html>





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9:7b ...upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom — He that is the Son of David shall reign upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, which He is entitled to. God shall give Him the throne of His father David, Luke 1: 32, 33. ⁴Unlike David's kingdom that had been greatly weakened from within and without, Jesus' kingdom will continually increase. Unlike David's rule that came to an end, Jesus' kingdom shall have no end. Every thing is, and shall be, well managed, in the kingdom of Christ, and none of His subjects shall ever have cause to complain. He shall reign henceforth even for ever; not only throughout all generations of time, but, even when the kingdom shall be delivered up to God even the Father, the glory both of the Redeemer and the redeemed shall continue eternally.

9:7c ...to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever —

Unlike David's kingdom, as great as it was, the Messiah's kingdom is a perfect kingdom of justice and righteousness forever. Justice is that part of Law which condemns. Righteousness is that part which absolves (to declare free). In the Kingdom of Christ, the ungodly are condemned, the godly are justified, saved, set free from sin and death. God Himself has undertaken to bring all this about.

9:7d The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. The title: "*Lord of hosts*" is the divine title meaning "*Lord of Armies*" representing God as supreme commander of all heavenly and earthly armies. It emphasizes God's ultimate power over the whole universe and every living creature, where God showed intense love for His people, a kind of jealousy by which He is determined to protect them at the great expense of any who interfere. The prophecy concerning the light, the child, and the king is fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus can be Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace for everyone now. God Himself has undertaken to bring all this about. He will make sure that fair and right things happen. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this because He cares about His people!

Isaiah 11:1-8 A Kingdom Of Righteousness

We come from Chapter 9 where the Prophet Isaiah had spoken of a child that should be born, a son that should be given, on whose shoulders the government should be, intending this for the comfort of the people of God in times of trouble. As Chapter 10 drew to a close, Isaiah wrote of a day when the remnant of Israel would rely on the Lord.

11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:—

However, we skip to Chapter 11, we are given a clear indication that Jesus' coming will be in the yet distant future, but He's coming!. Isaiah predicts that the "*tree*" of the line of David will be cut down and that a shoot must grow out of the root stock of Jesse (David's father and the forefather of the Davidic line), before the tree can flourish again. The imagery of the Prophet is that of a felled or dead tree out of whose stump, a twig would sprout and from whose roots a "*Branch*" would flourish again. Isaiah's point is to show that the kingdom has sunk so low that the Davidic line will apparently be cut down, and yet somehow will spring forth again in the person of the Messiah. The Prophet predicts that a **rod** (*Heb. shoter, shoot or sprout*) shall come forth out of the **stem** (*Heb. geza', root stock or stump*) of Jesse.

11:2 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 of the fear of the Lord; —In this verse this shoot is personalized as an individual ruler—the Messiah Himself! The spirit of the Lord apparently refers to the sevenfold Holy Spirit of God. The number seven is a picture of completeness, and often refers to one complete thing.

- 1- ⁵He has the Spirit of the Lord - It is not a false spirit or a deceiving spirit or even the spirit of a man The Spirit of the Lord God of Israel rests upon the Messiah indicating a permanent settling down.
- 2- The Spirit of Wisdom is upon the Messiah- Jesus is perfectly wise in all things. He showed it among us during His earthly ministry.

⁴ <http://www.wlsessays.net/files/DobbersteinIsaiah.pdf>

⁵ http://www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm_view.cfm?AuthorID=2&contentID=7730&commInfo=31&topic=Isaiah
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sundayschool.html>



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- 3- The Spirit of Understanding is upon Jesus- Jesus understands all things, and He understands us perfectly.
- 4- The Spirit of Counsel is upon Jesus- He has both the wisdom and the understanding to be a perfect Counselor!
- 5- The Spirit of Strength/Might is upon Jesus - He has the power to do what He desires to do.
- 6- The Spirit of Knowledge is upon Jesus - He knows everything. He knows our hearts, He knows all the facts.
- 7- The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord is upon Jesus- He kept Himself in a place of submission, respect, and honor to God the Father.

The seven-branched lampstand that held the oil lamps for the tabernacle is also an illustration of the seven aspects of the Holy Spirit. "This candlestick had one stem in the center from which protruded three branches to the right and three to the left. Similarly, in this text, three pairs of the names of the Spirit are grouped around the central stem." (Bultema)

11:3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:— The Messiah shall have "*quick understanding*"—literally, "*quick-scented in the fear of Jehovah*"; an acute smell or scent. ⁶"*Sharpness of judgment in smelling out a hypocrite . . . His sharp nose easily discerneth and is offended with the stinking breath of the hypocrite's rotten lungs, though His words be never so scented and perfumed with shows of holiness.*" The picture is that the Messiah rejoices in the fear of the Lord just as if an offering has been brought to Him. Because the Spirit of the Lord is upon Him, He will not judge after the sight of His eyes; for He shall have true spiritual vision. He shall neither reprove (settle) matters after the hearing of His ears. But His quick understanding is from the Spirit resting upon Him.

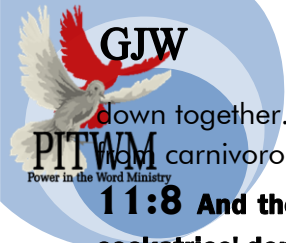
11:4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. Rather, the basis of His judgment and His vindication of the poor shall be with righteousness. When Jesus sits on the throne, He will be the first king in history to have the advantage of knowing all men's hearts. This is the kind of king the earth will have in the Millennium. Thus, He shall rule the earth with the "*rod (shebet), scepter of His mouth*", indicating that the rule of the Messiah shall be by the power of His spoken Word, even to the extent that He shall slay the wicked with His breath (Rev.19:15) by the operation of the Holy Spirit. Spirit and breath are the same. The mere words of Jesus have the power to judge the wicked. He only has to announce a judgment and it is done.

11:5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. "*The girdle of his loins*" is the "*cincture*", or "*band*", with which the ancients girded themselves. A part of their dress consisted of an outward, loose, flowing robe. This robe was necessary to gird up or to confine close to the body in active labor, or in running. We can say that the virtues of righteousness and justice would adhere to Him as closely and inseparably as the garment does to the body to which it was bound. The girdle secures firmly the rest of the garments (1 Pt.1:13). So "*truth*" gives firm consistency to the whole character (Eph.5:14)." And "*Righteousness and Faithfulness*" shall make Him active and strong in executing the great work which He shall undertake and girdle about Him. The "*Branch*" will be prepared for action. It is His righteousness that shall be the "*girdle (belt)*" that holds together the spiritual greatness of His kingdom on earth. He will always exhibit Himself as a just and faithful king.

11:6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. Isaiah describes what the Messiah's kingdom will be like. The quality of the Messiah's kingdom will be one of complete peace and harmony. The dangerous predatory animals, wolf... leopard... lion... bear, will dwell, and lie down together with the non-ferocious animals. And a little child will lead them. A little child will be safe enough and able to lead any animal. It is obvious in these verses that these ravenous animals are set in deliberate contrast against the more defenseless lamb... kid... calf. There will also be harmony between the animals and between man and the animal kingdom.

11:7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The other animals like the cow and bear will be able to feed together along with their young ones lying

⁶ http://www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm_view.cfm?AuthorID=2&contentID=7730&commInfo=31&topic=Isaiah
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sundayschool.html>



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down together. This goes on further to indicate that "*the lion shall eat straw like the ox*", indicating a change of diet from carnivorous to vegetarian.

11:8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. If we are to assume that the real Messiah shall come forth and rule in real righteousness, then we must also view this era of real peace as extending to the real animal world as well where the predator-prey" (i.e., oppressor-oppressed) will no longer exist. Babies or infant (sucking child) will crawl and play safely among the poisonous snakes. Even a small child not nursing (weaned child) will be able to put their hand on the den of venomous serpents (cockatrice) and pull it off unharmed.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE LESSON

11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. The key thought in this section is found in verse 9: "**They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain.**" In the rule of the Messiah's kingdom, there will be no violence or destruction in God's creation, even in the animal kingdom. Natural enemies will no longer be enemies. The food chain will become unchained. As it was in Eden, so it will be again. In the Millennium, animals are no longer carnivores. Bears and lions will be eating vegetation, snakes won't be biting people, and predators will not be hunting other animals anymore. This unparalleled time of spiritual and natural peace will result from the fact that the earth shall be "**full of knowledge of the Lord**"—referring here to recognition of the Lord's sovereignty which results in a willingness to submit to his authority. Not only will there be a remnant spared in Judah, but the day is coming when this Divine Messiah shall rule the entire world.

SUMMARY:

Isaiah sees an increase of Jesus' rule and dominion; and describes His domain as with peace. During the Millennial reign of Christ, our Savior will rule and reign over all the earth. The government will rest on the shoulders of the Prince of Peace. And there shall be no end of either His government or of His peace. And this peace, this peaceful government shall be established and upheld with justice and righteousness. This is going to happen because the Lord of hosts has dedicated Himself to do it! The battle is not yours but God's (2Chro.20:15).

It appeared that the fierce empire of Assyria would totally annihilate the people of God—indeed, what little was left of the nation of Judah is viewed as a mere stump of a tree that has been chopped down to the ground. But the Lord declares that from this stump there shall spring new life. Great king David's royal line would not be extinguished; rather, it would produce a king (the Messiah) who will one day rule over all the earth. This king is none other than Jesus Christ the Messiah. When He comes to establish a new heaven and a new earth there will be a kingdom of peace prevailing throughout nature between man and animals. The entire world shall be transformed into the kingdom of God. The result will be because the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

APPLICATION:

Will you take God at His Word and allow him to lead you when He says He can bring hope when the economy is looking bleak? Remember, in His Presence there is peace because He has already worked all things out for our good.