

Future Glory

Isaiah 60-62

Main Idea

The Lord will create in Israel a future glory that will cause the nations to stream to it; this hope is secured by One that is anointed by the Spirit of the Lord.

Overview

Future Glory of Israel (Isaiah 60)

- The Lord, the light of Zion (vss 1-5)
 - The city of light, magnet to the world (v 1-3)
 - All while the world is still in the midst of darkness
 - Zion's response to the gathering nations (v 4-5)
- The new status of the nations: materially and spiritually accepted by the Lord (v 6-7)
- A people from the nations shall hope for the Lord as they seek the beauty of Zion (v 8-9)
- The nations serve Zion (v 10-11)
- Rival nations fail against Zion (v 12)
- Other nations recognize Zion for what it is (v 13-14)
- God will meet the needs of Zion and make her majestic (v 15-18)
- The Lord will be their everlasting light (v 18-22)

The King of Glory (Isaiah 61)

- The Spirit of the Lord is upon "me" (Jesus): Luke 4.16-22: (v 1-3)
 - Because the Lord has anointed Him to bring/proclaim/preach good news to the poor
 - Bind up the brokenhearted
 - Proclaim liberty to the captives
 - Opening of the prison to those who are bound
 - Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
 - Day of vengeance of our God
 - Comfort all who mourn
 - Give a beautiful headdress instead of ashes
 - The oil of gladness instead of mourning
 - Garment of praise instead of a faint spirit
 - THAT they (righteous residents of Zion) maybe called Oaks of Righteousness (see 59.21)
 - A planting of the Lord THAT He would be glorified
- He shall secure the restoration of all things (v 4-7)
 - Ancient ruins will be built back up (v 4)
 - Strangers shall serve you (v 5)
 - You will called priests of the Lord/ministers of God (v 6)
 - Instead of shame and dishonor there will be a double portion and everlasting joy (v 7)
- The Lord loves Justice and hates wrong (v 8)
 - He brings recompense (payment) as well as an everlasting covenant
- Zion's offspring/descendants shall be known and acknowledged among the nations (v 9)
- The result of this causes joy in the Lord because of the salvation/righteousness that comes (v 10-11)

The Realm of Glory (Isaiah 62)

- For the sake of Zion there will be no silence until righteousness/salvation has gone forth (v 1-2)

- Zion's residents will be a crown of beauty and a royal diadem no longer seen as Forsaken but instead known as Delight as the Lord rejoices over her (v 3-5)
- Watchmen are set until Jerusalem is established and made a praise in the earth (v 6-7)
 - The benefits of the Lord shall be gained in the courts of the Lord's sanctuary (v 8-9)
- Salvation is coming to the nations along with reward and recompense (v 10-12)
 - Zion's residents shall be called Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord, Sought out, and a City Not Forsaken (v 12)

Questions

Discussion Starter: How did the sermon help you see and be encouraged by something in the text?

1. Read Revelation 21 & Isaiah 60. What parallels do you see? Describe the two things at work in the beginning portions of this passage. Who does light come to? What does light/darkness indicate?
Get them to see how the Lord would cause light to shine upon Israel amidst a worldwide darkness. The Light comes not only to Israel, but also to the nations (v 3)
2. Using Isaiah 59.19-21 How does the Light manifest itself to Zion (Jerusalem/Heaven)? What do all these things mean? What does that mean for believers today?
Through repentance and faith in the Redeemer salvation comes as does the beauty of the nations as they bring their wealth to beautify the Lord's house. In Christ and in the Kingdom of Heaven we benefit from the wealth of the nations. We receive blessings from every part of the world. In heaven we can see that some continuity of national identities and resources will come to benefit Gods place of Zion.
3. Where do the nations stream to "the City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel" (v. 14)?
Vs 9 tells us they are coming because they "hope for the Lord" and He is using the beauty of those nations to further beautify His place of Zion. Show them how every one of us from different nations comes into the church and brings an element of beauty to us in their distinctions and drop this against a monochromatic view of heaven (and the church) where everything is the same. God loves diversity! The nations see in the beauty of God's people the beauty of the Holy One of Israel. He glorifies his name by glorifying the people who bear his name – and this draws the diversity of the nations to worship Him in all his glory.
4. Look through the names/descriptors of God's people of Isaiah 60. How does this encourage you and define you as a Christian?
Think hard about the implications of these names and what that means for us. Many people struggle to answer voices in their heads everyday that are attempting to define them...work against them by having these titles define them.
5. Read Isaiah 61 & Luke 4.16-22. How does this describe Jesus and His ministry?
Get them talking about the beauty of Jesus and His ministry. Have them describe it in less abstract terms and more personal terms.
6. What does this Lord love in this passage and what does He not love? Are you valuing the same things in the same way?
Its easy to reflect the world...using the text show them how if we take the name of Christ we must begin to value the same things He values in the same ways. Note the emphasis on preaching in this passage as well as practical ministry to the poor and injustice and draw their attention to how this will be manifested perfectly in heaven.
7. Read Isaiah 62. Why is the Lord acting here? How does the Lord feel about His people? Do you often feel/protect/act in the same way?

Its easy to want to speak/act for the sake of all kinds of things...the Lord speaks and acts for Zion's sake. Zion is the resident of home of the righteous (heaven) (60.21). Are we prayerful and practical loving the church in the way we see the Lord doing here? Do we speak of her and think of her in the same way He does here?

8. Looking back over this passage, how does it shape our identity as Individual people and as a church?

Grab all the descriptors and benefits that are provided and apply them to today and how they point us to the reality of heaven.

Accountability: How are you hoping in heaven? How are you loving the church? Loving the poor? "So speaking" and "so acting" on behalf of the injustices of the world?