

Foundation, Fear, & Faith

Text: Isaiah 8:9-22

Date: 9-13-20 Outdoor Service @ 10:30 am

Review: Just as God fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah's second son in front of all people to clearly see; so God would be faithful to fulfill the prophetic sign of Isa. 7:14. "Seeing that Maher-shalal-hash-baz had been born in accordance with the prophecy, they could be sure that in His own good time God would fulfill the promise concerning the virgin, and that she would bear a son" (Young 304).

Main Truth: Our trust in God leads to the firm belief that true security is only found through God's Word.

I. The Foundation for the People's Trust is to be in Jehovah Alone (Isa. 8:9-15).

With renewed confidence in the promise of Immanuel, Isaiah comes out swinging with a ridiculing challenge to the enemies of God's people. Even though Assyria would almost defeat Judah, Isaiah now reassures the remnant that God will win in the end.

Those hostile nations that oppose Israel do not stand a chance against God. They take counsel together, but it is for nothing. They shall speak words together to scheme against God, but it is all pointless.

The road map tells us to walk after God, to come to a place in our lives that we wholeheartedly depend on God.

Isaiah was opposing the king's unbelief and desire to compromise with the enemy. Therefore, the charge of treason was totally false. Isaiah didn't have to be afraid for he wasn't speaking his own words but God's words. Isaiah didn't have to fear either the king or the people because in the end God would win.

God's message to Isaiah for that day is the same message of hope for our day.

When we face fearful times, we must remember that God is the Lord of Hosts and that He will fight for us, He will deliver us, and He will win the victory in the end.

What were the consequences of refusing to trust in Jehovah alone? Many will 1) Stumble 2) Fall 3) Be Broken 4) Be Snared 5) Be Taken. Let me ask you this question? Was it worth it to distrust God?

II. The confirmation of God's coming help brings encouragement to the remnant (Isa. 8:16-18).

Who are the disciples? These well may be a part of the faithful remnant or followers of Jehovah and the prophet. In this Isaiah preserved God's prophecy in this inner circle of beloved friends; thus in that sense they were Isaiah's followers too.

Isaiah was willing to wait on Jehovah, patiently watching and allowing God to work out His justice on the nation. How long would Isaiah have to wait? A long time perhaps, but his trust was fully placed in the sovereign, revealed plan of God. Do we confidently trust in the Lord as we await His future plans?

“In addition to their prophetic names, Isaiah and his two sons were living *signs and wonders* because of their stand against the official policies of the king and public opinion, which was considered unpatriotic or even treasonous by the majority of the people” (Buksbazen 159).

Transition: The foundation is always the Lord Himself. This brings hope for the faithful remnant. Lastly today we find that the God always leaves clear instructions to His followers.

III. Those who trust in God will receive clear instruction from God (Isa. 8:19-22).

The call comes through crystal clear: come back to God and His revealed law. That is all that matters. If only the people would choose to be instructed by God. **Don't be taken by man's words.** At this point most of the people contradicted God's law because all they had in them was darkness. They hadn't followed the light of God's words. What would happen to these people if they continued to follow these false ways?

Those that reap to the wind will reap the whirlwind. Those who had forsaken Jehovah will reap the wages of their sin. The wages of sin is truly death.

So, God in His grace made it abundantly clear that His road map was the answer for the Jews. Through the prophets, God left no doubt that He would forgive their sin and heal their land. For the remnant the encouragement of the day was hope would be found in Immanuel and God alone.

Do you truly fear and trust God? Do you truly respond to the clear instruction of the God's word? Do you truly find your security and stability through God's Word? Thus, they would have nothing to fear or worry about. What a lesson for us today!

How does Isaiah 8:9-22 apply to me?

1. My spiritual stability only comes from total reliance in Jehovah.
2. My hope is solely predicated on God alone. Wherever I go, whatever I do, or however long I live, may it be said of me that my hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness.

What does this passage reveal about the character and nature of God?

1. God's holiness (v. 13)
2. God's security (vs. 13-15)
3. God's power (v. 22)

What are some "call to action" truths from Isaiah 8:9-22?

1. The people of God should earnestly desire to seek after God in such that both we and the world know where our passions lie.
2. If Jehovah is held to the reverential fear and awe that He is entitled to, then we have no reason to fear what man can do to us.
3. If God is your foundation, you have eternal hope as found in the clear instruction of God's Word. How will you live in light of that truth this week?