"We Have An Inheritance"

Isaiah 52

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Isaiah 52 is going to be our text, but we are going to begin this message in Ephesians 1. If you would like to read along with me, we're gonna start in Ephesians 1. And I would like for us to think for just a moment about the mystery of our Lord's will in how He is going to gather His people together in Himself to an inheritance, the scripture says, and a reward of glory. I'd like for us to just think about that for one moment, how He is gonna gather all of His people to Himself, in Himself, the mystery of His will in this in bringing a reward and an inheritance to His people. If you look with me at Ephesians 1:8 says, "Wherein He hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known unto us the mystery of His will." "Having made known unto us the mystery of His will." God has revealed to us, in the pages of His book, exactly what He has purposed for His people, for all of eternity. In the same way that the Old Testament revealed the mystery of Christ's coming, all of the Old Testament described and foretold of Christ's coming and the events of the New Testament. The Old Testament told us what would happen, everything that would happen. It said a virgin would conceive and would bring forth a Son, and He would grow up the sinless Son of Righteousness and He would willingly give Himself and victoriously ride in to Jerusalem on a donkey, that's what the scripture said. That's what happened. It said He would be taken from prison. It said He would be marred more than any man. He would be numbered with the transgressors and He would give His life a ransom for His people. And it said He would rise the third day in reign as King forever. It plainly told all of those things, but men and women couldn't see it until it was revealed to 'em. It told us. It told us. It told us. It was always there, but it was like men and women had scales on their eyes, that's what the apostle Paul said. He said it was like I had scales on my eyes and couldn't see. But on the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Ghost came, that's when Peter said. He told all the other disciples, he said, men and brethren, the scriptures foretold of all of this. He realized it. It was revealed to him. He said, it was always there, but now we plainly see it. In the same way that that's how it

was with the Old Testament concerning Christ's coming, that's how it is in the New Testament concerning His return. There are things that have been revealed to us, the mystery of His will has been revealed to us. There are some things we can see. I believe there are many things that we can't. I believe He declares the fullness of it and we have not yet had it revealed to us. But what things we can see, I pray that the Lord will reveal those things even more. So verse 8 right here says, "Wherein He hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; having made known unto us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself." It's all His good pleasure. Everything, it's all His purpose. That's a word that we all need to learn and know something of, God's purpose. God's purpose in all things. Everything that happens is according to His purpose, His will and His purpose. And that's what's going to be done, His purpose. And here it is, verse 10 says, "That in the dispensation of the fullness of times, He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth, even in Him. In whom," still speaking of Christ, "also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will, that we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ." God the Father, to the praise of the glory of God the Father who was the first one to trust in Christ. Before the foundation of this world, all of the purpose of God was set in order, all from the end, from the beginning, who knew everything in the end. All of His works were known to Him. And God the Father entrusted all of the work of God to be accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ. He put it in His hands and He said, I trust that you're gonna accomplish this, and He did. The Father was the first one to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. And in that work that was given to Him, it says right here that He is going to gather us, is how the scripture words it, meaning His people, His chosen people. He is going to gather us, not a form of us, not a vague memory of us, not a different us. New, yes. He said, "I make all things new." Better, yes. Hebrews is telling us, oh, everything's better in the Lord Jesus Christ. Perfect, yes. Right now, we're full of sin and we're full of everything that's wrong. Perfect, righteous, holy, yes, but it's not gonna be a different us, it's gonna be us. And I sincerely pray that He's talking about me and I pray He's talking about you. I pray He's talking about us. I pray we are one of His people. I pray the Father chose us and the Son came to redeem us and the Spirit has, through His Word, called us and given us a faith to look to Him and to believe on Him. I pray this is us. He is going to gather the us together in one. That's

what's gonna happen. When this is all over, Christ is gonna come back, and everything is going to be gathered into one, into Him, one body, there's gonna be one body, one assembly, one place. There's only gonna be one moment in time. Back in Exodus, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord Jesus Christ said, "Moses wrote of me." When Moses was talking about Jehovah and God, and He said, "Moses wrote of me." He said, "Everything in the law and the prophets was concerning me." And He told Moses in Exodus, Moses said, "What's your name? Who should I tell the people that sent me?" He said, "You tell 'em I Am sent you." I am. And that's what He said when He was on this earth and Judas brought that mob to Him to take Him. He said, "Whom seek ye?" They said, "Jesus of Nazareth." "Nazareth," He said, "I Am." He told some Pharisees, "Before Abraham was, I Am." And that's how it's gonna be in glory. I am. One moment in time. Time will be no more. I am. He is. We are. Both the people that are already in heaven and the people who are still on this earth, when He comes back, He's gonna gather all of us together in Himself. In Himself. Verse 11 says, "In whom," or because of whom. "Also we have obtained an inheritance," obtained an inheritance, "being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will." Now, that's what I want us to think on for just a minute here. I titled this message, "We Have an Inheritance." We have an inheritance. Christ is that inheritance. All things that are in Him is that inheritance, all the blessing of the Father, which is in Him, that's the inheritance. Verse 12 says, "That we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom you also trusted, after that you heard the Word of truth." And this is the means that the Lord has chosen to use to reveal these things to His people. This is why the Lord raised up this method of preaching. It pleased the Lord by the foolishness of preaching and He said, "When you heard the preaching of the truth of the Word of God," verse 13, "in whom you also trusted, you believed it, you trusted, after that you heard the Word of truth the gospel of your salvation." Sinner, salvation for sinners. "In whom also after that you believed, you were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory." God's Spirit, after we hear the Word of truth, the gospel of our salvation, He gives faith and He causes us to believe. And that faith that He gives to us that's of Him, not of us, that's His earnest to us. You know, whenever you buy a house, you put earnest money down saying, I'm making a promise here I will buy this. Well, that's His promise to us. We are sealed with the

Spirit of promise through the faith that's given to us to believe on Christ, and to believe these words, and to bow to our God. Verse 14 says, "Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory." He gives us that faith until He comes back to gather us. Verse 15, "Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints," Paul said, "I cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers." And all of God's people do that for each other. We thank God for each other that He would call us His brethren in the family of God. I sincerely pray. I'm talking to a camera right now, but I believe in my heart someone's on the other side of this lens listening and believing the truth of God's Word, and I pray for you. Pray for you in Christ. Verse 17 says, "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him." I pray God would increase our wisdom and our knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray He would reveal Christ to us. Verse 18 says, "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ." It's where God did everything for His people, in Christ. "When He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places." His own right hand is not a location that's an office. When it says that Christ sits at the right hand, that means the seat of honor. That's what the little phrase translates to, the seat of honor. He is seated on the throne, that's what it means. The Father raised Him from the dead and seated Him on the throne, and that's where He sits right now. They said, "David, where's your God?" He said, "My God's in the heavens doing whatever He wants to do. Seated on His throne." Verse 21 says, "Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come." Far above. "And He hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all." This place of gathering and this place of inheritance is the very place where Christ is seated on His throne. God the Father is gonna gather all of His people to His throne. It's a place that's far above everything else. It's a place that's worthy of His glory. It's a place that is most definitely to the praise of His glory. And verse 21 says, "It's far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come." That is kingship, that's what that is. That is lordship. That's a kingdom. Now, after seeing that, turn with me if you would over to Isaiah 52. If you would like to read this with me, I'm gonna go over to Isaiah 52. And while you're turning there, I'll tell you that earthly kings, throughout time, there have been kings after kings after kings, and they are recorded in the Word of God. We have so many kings. For each one, it will tell us how long he was a king. It'll say, "And he reigned," however many years. And then it says he died, and then a new king comes along and it says in the Word of God, and he reigned however many years, and then his time was over. And then another king comes along and it says, "And he reigned," and that was it. Each one got a very small passing, fleeting moment in time. And he reigned, and he reigned, and he reigned. All right, but look with me at Isaiah 52, the last three words of verse 7, it says, "Thy God reigneth." I love that. "Thy God reigneth." What tense is reigneth? You know reigned, we just talked about all those kings, and he reigned, that's past tense. What tense is reigneth? That's right now tense. That's what it is. And that's forever tense. Right now and forevermore, Thy God reigneth. He reigneth. And this is the place where He reigns. He's gonna gather together in one, all things, all of His people in Christ. And when He does, this is where He's gonna gather 'em to. All right, this is the calling. This is the bringing together right here. Look with me at verse 1, Isaiah 52:1. It says, "Awake, awake, put on thy strength." We live our life here on this earth in weakness. We live it in weakness, weakness of the flesh, weakness of our sin. But Christ has reserved an inheritance for us, and that inheritance is strength. Strength. And when the dispensation of the fullness of time comes, and it's time to be gathered into the inheritance of His glory, this is what we're gonna hear, "Awake awake." When He comes and He gathers, He's gonna say, "Awake, awake, put on thy strength," which is Christ. Christ, He is our strength. We're gonna hear, it's time. It's time, go ahead. Physically wear Christ. All of God's people right now are in Him, spiritually in Him. But there's gonna come a moment in time when God's people will be physically in Him, physically robed in Him. Verse 1 says, "Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion." A particular people, God's chosen people. "Put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city, for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean." In Isaiah 61, the Lord said, "I came to give beauty instead of ashes to my people." He said, "I came to exchange the Spirit of heaviness for the garment of praise." And that beautiful garment is the very perfection and the very righteousness

of Christ Himself. And in that moment, we're gonna hear, it's time to put it on. We're in His righteousness and we are complete in Him right now, spiritually. But there will come a point when we are allowed to wear it physically. We are allowed to be, not just in soul, but in body, exactly what Christ is. "Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion, put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city, for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean." Sin is never gonna touch you again, that'll be the announcement. Verse 2, "Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem, loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion." Take a load off, that's what it's saying. It's over. It's over. Come in, sit down, take that band off your neck. You're not in bondage anymore. Right now, God's people are bound to sin, we're bound to self, we're bound to the captivity of the world. But one of these days, the announcement will come, you're free. You're free. Verse 3 says, "For thus saith the Lord, you have sold yourselves for nought and you shall be redeemed without money. For thus saith the Lord God, my people went down aforetime into Egypt to sojourn there, and the Assyrian oppressed them without cause. Now therefore, what have I here, saith the Lord, that my people is taken away for nought? They that rule over them make them to howl, saith the Lord, and my name continually every day is blasphemed. Therefore my people shall know my name, therefore they shall know in that day that I am He that doth speak, behold, it is I." He said, you sold yourselves into bondage, the most awful, horrible bondage in sin. But He said, "I brought you back and I did not do it with money." Peter said, "We were not redeemed with corruptible things such as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself." That's what He bought His people back with. As of a lamb without blemish and without spot, who verily was for ordained before the foundation of the world for this, and was manifested in these last times for you who by Him do believe in God that raised Him up from the dead and gave Him glory that your faith and hope might be in Him. That's who He did it for. That's who did it, what He did, and who He did it for, and why He did it. That's our beautiful gospel. That's the gospel, that's the garment of praise. That's our strength. Christ Jesus, our Savior and our Lord. Christ our Savior and our Lord. Verse 7 says, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of Him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth." How beautiful. Who has brought good tidings to us? Who is it exactly that brought good news to us? Who published peace to us? Who is it that published and

declared salvation for us? Here's our question, who owns these beautiful feet? How beautiful are the feet of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. Christ Jesus the Lord, He's the one who brought the good news. He's the one who brought peace. When He came down, peace came down. When Psalm 2 says, "Kiss the Son, lest He be angry," God's people know that means His feet. That means His feet. Bow down and kiss His glorious, beautiful, precious feet, the feet that brought the gospel to us. The Lord went to have dinner in a Pharisee's house one time. And when a sinful woman of the city knew that He was there and knew that He was her Savior, knew that He was her only hope, it says that she brought an alabaster box of ointment and she stood at His feet weeping and she began to wash His feet with her tears. And she did wipe them with the hairs of her head and kissed His feet and anointed them with the ointment. And the Lord told the Pharisee, whose house He was in, He said, "This woman right here belongs to me. She is with me. She is one of mine." And I'm sure that made her wanna kiss His feet all the more. Oh, kiss His feet, kiss His feet. Verse 7 says, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth. Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice, with the voice together shall they sing, for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord hath comforted His people, He hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God." Where did He make bear that holy arm? Golgotha's hill, the cross of Calvary, the place where war was staged from the judgment thrown of God on the sin of His people. There's a song that says "Up Calvary's mountain one dreadful morn, walked Christ my Savior, weary and worn, facing for sinners death on the cross that He might save them from endless loss." And He did. This chapter goes on to say He was marred more than any man. Read Isaiah 53 sometimes. Oh, He was bruised. He was wounded. Everything that He endured for the sin of His people. But this is what it says, and I'm outta time, but I'm just gonna tell you this, it says it pleased the Lord to bruise Him. It pleased the Lord to do this to His own Son for His people. And to that we cry, thank God. And because of that, in Him, all who have been given faith to look to Him, they are all gonna receive the inheritance of Him and everything that's in Him. To that, we give God all the glory.