

Series: Isaiah

Lesson # 27

Title: Glorious Rest

Scripture: Isaiah 11v10

Date: 4-19-09

Place: Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Princeton, New Jersey

In these tumultuous days in which we live, nothing comforts my heart as when God in his word declares the sure and certain GLORIOUS REST we have as believers. This Rest, this Assurance, this precious Peace for believers is Christ Jesus the Lord, the Son of God. Therefore when God's little flock in Judah was in the midst of civil and political unrest, the LORD God sent forth Isaiah with the one message that God always sends his messengers to deliver--the gospel of Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior.

The 11th chapter of Isaiah begins with an account of the descent of the Son of God, from heavens glory to dwell among his people, as Man, the Son of David.

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

In verses 2 Isaiah declares that the Man, Jesus Christ, is equipped by the LORD to fulfill his office of Judge and King, in a manner preeminently better than any other man.

Isaiah 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; (It tells us that Jesus is the Man whom God chose to be King and High Priest of the royal nation created by God through grace.)

In verses 3-5 Isaiah declares that the manner in which he exercises his government over his people is nothing like the sinful, deceitful way that men oppress and rule.

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

In verses 6-9 Isaiah declares the sure and certain, effectual result of peace which our Righteous Ruler produces in his church and in his kingdom.

Isaiah 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. 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. 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. 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.

Think of how the saints in Judah would have received this word of truth up to this point. The kingdom is divided. Out of the original 12 sons of Jacob--the 12 tribes which once comprised the nation Israel--Judah and half of the tribe of Benjamin make up their side. Ten tribes and the other half tribe of Benjamin, now call themselves Israel, and are hell-bent on destroying Judah--their own kin folk.

Yet, Isaiah's gospel declares to them that from the tribe of Judah, from the family of Jesse, from the house of David, a Man will be born who will be the Man chosen by the LORD God--the Spirit of God shall descend upon this Man. He will rule in righteousness and bring peace throughout all Israel.

No time frame is given. **And in that day (Is 11: 10.)** They must have been so encouraged to think, it could be tomorrow. We will not always be oppressed in this way, one is coming who will destroy all our enemies and set up his kingdom forever. Then we will enjoy great peace and comfort and joy with him forever. What joy and comfort to them to think of their nation and their kingdom restored to prominence in the world.

But then the Spirit of God moves Isaiah to include this word. Here is our text:
Isaiah 11: 10: And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

Proposal: OUR LORD AND SAVIOR AND ALL THE BLESSING WE HAVE IN HIM ARE SPIRITUAL, NOT CARNAL.

Divisions: I. OUR LORD AND SAVIOR IS SPIRITUAL; II. THE GOSPEL WE PREACH IS SPIRIT AND LIFE; III. THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR IS SPIRITUAL; IV. THE REST OUR LORD AND SAVIOR GIVES IS SPIRITUAL.

I. OUR LORD AND SAVIOR IS SPIRIT.

Isaiah 11: 10: And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse

The Lord Jesus declares that he is both the root and the offspring of David.

Revelation 22: 16: I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

A. Isaiah 11:1 and this word in verse 10 are worded differently and suggest these two truths of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Verse 1 sets forth the humble birth of the Man, King Jesus, as the OFFSPRING--the son of Jesse, the son of David. **Isaiah 11: 1: And there shall COME FORTH...a rod OUT OF THE STEM of Jesse,...and a Branch SHALL GROW OUT OF HIS ROOTS:**

Now, notice the wording here in verse 10: **And in that day there SHALL BE.** It does not say, "coming forth", no "out of the stump of Jesse", no "growing out of Jesse's roots", but **THERE SHALL BE!** And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse--it does not say a Branch shall grow out of Jesse's roots, but **THERE SHALL BE A ROOT OF JESSE**--not a Branch growing out of Jesse's roots, but Jesse came from this Root.

B. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is both God and Man.

Because he came through the tribe of Judah, through the house of Jesse, the house of David, he is called the Branch out of Jesse's roots--the Offspring of David; but because Jesus Christ is the LORD God, Jehovah, the Beginning from whom Judah, and Jesse, and David and all God's children are born, he **THE ROOT OF JESSE**--that is, both Jesse's LORD and his Offspring.

Psalm 110:1: <<A Psalm of David.>> The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Matthew 22: 41: While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42: Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, *The Son of David.* 43: He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, 44: **The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? 45: **If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?** 46: **And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any *man* from that day forth ask him any more questions.****

John 6: 41: The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven. 42: And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven? 43: Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves. 44: No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

C. Here is why it is so important to understand that our Lord and Savior is Spirit.

Christ Jesus offered himself through the eternal Spirit--**Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?** Therefore his atonement is eternal--Hebrews 10: 1-14. What great reason to thank God, Jesus Christ the Man is the Son of God. Therefore, our salvation is eternal.

II. THE GOSPEL WE PREACH IS SPIRIT AND LIFE.

V10: And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse which shall stand for an ensign to the people.

Consider this word "Ensign." 1. An ensign is a banner--a flag--carried into war; 2. In ancient times the soldiers on the field could use the banner to determine where they were on the field; 3. The ensign was where the soldiers gathered together; 4. What is the first thing soldiers do

when the war is won? They raise the flag of their country. **Verse 10 declares that Christ Jesus the Lord shall stand for an ensign to the people.**

The Ensign is Christ Jesus the Lord the Son of God.

A. The Ensign was raised up on the cross.

B. The Ensign is raised up from the dead where he is now seated at God's right hand.

C. The Ensign is raised up through the preaching of the gospel.

A. The Ensign was raised up on the cross.

John 3: 14: And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:...(Numbers 21: 8, 9.) Why was the serpent lifted up in the wilderness? Serpents were killing the people--a type of sin. So God made the cure to be the very thing that was killing them--a brass serpent--**2 Corinthians 5:21: For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.** Moses lifted up that serpent even as God lifted Christ up on the cross

B. The Ensign was raised from the dead where he is now seated at God's right hand.

Christ went to the cross and there the enemies gathered round about as Christ our Ensign was lifted up.

Isaiah 10: 28-32--describes enemy troops closing in around Jerusalem during a time of a great battle. In **verse 32** we have the description of one shaking his hand at Jerusalem--**As yet shall he remain at Nob that day: he shall shake his hand against the mount of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.** These were the proud ones that God called "Oaks of Bashan (Is 2: 13, 13.) The same ones that Christ called "bulls of Bashan" which have compassed me about (Ps 22: 12.) These typify Satan and the enemies of God compassing Christ about.

Isaiah 10: 27--describes what our Savior's death accomplished. **27: And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.**

But in Isaiah 10: 17-18: As the destruction of the enemies of God by Christ is described, notice what is said of all the people who remain, "**and they shall be as when a standard bearer fainteth.**" The standard is the ensign. The standard bearer is the one who holds forth the ensign. Christ is both the Ensign and the Ensign Bearer. When he went into the grave it was like the flag in battle being taken down so that the soldiers have no idea which way to go. What happened to his disciples in the day he laid down his life. **Mark 14:27: And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.**

But our Lord Jesus Christ said, John 12: 32: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

It pleased God that all fullness dwell in Christ Jesus--all spiritual blessings were given his people by God in Christ; all our complete standing before God is by Christ's living and dying in our place; all those he bought with his blood HE SHALL DRAW to himself. This is the second lifting up of the Ensign--he was raised from the dead.

What a fulfillment of the prophecy of old! **Genesis 49:10: The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.** Shiloh signifies--"quiet", "peace" and "prosperity." It has the meaning "he whose it is."

The scepter--the throne--shall not depart from Judah till he whom the crown rights belong is come---**Isaiah 28: 5: In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people.**

Nor a lawgiver-a governor--shall stop existing in the house of Judah till Christ Jesus, to whom the whole government belongs, is come--**Isaiah 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.**

When he to whom the throne belongs, he on whose shoulder the government rests is come--unto some barren dessert shall the gathering of the people be? **NO! Unto him shall the gathering of the people be.** Why? **And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.** He is now raised in heaven to him shall the gathering of the people be.

Christ promised to gather his scattered sheep unto him! He had gathered the twelve before he went to the cross. He had gathered many of the lost sheep of the house of Israel before he went to the cross. And now that he is risen, the first thing he does is gather together his disciples who were scattered--**verse 11: And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. 12: And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.**

At Pentecost, he gathered 3000 more. Then a little while later he gathered a few more thousand. And he continued to do so until he eventually he sent forth Paul to the Gentiles.

But he sent them forth blowing the gospel trumpet so that the weary, soldiers will lift up their heads and behold the Ensign--the Banner--so that they know the war is over for his people. So our message is this: **Isaiah 40: 1: Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. 2: Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is**

accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

BUT WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH OUR GOSPEL BEING SPIRIT AND LIFE?

C. Christ the Ensign is set forth in the blowing of the gospel trumpet. We raise him up before men through the preaching of the gospel. The trumpet of the gospel is blown so Christ's redeemed will look and live--as they behold the Ensign. Thus they know the war is over. Because Christ sends his messenger, because the Spirit blesses the word preached, this gospel we preach are spirit and life. Christ Jesus the Lord is Jehovah Nissi--the Lord our Banner.

John 6:63: It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

I like this word of assurance in **V10: And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse which shall stand for an ensign to the people....I Peter 1: 23: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 24: For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word [Christ the Ensign] which by the gospel [the trumpet] is preached unto you.**

III. THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR IS SPIRITUAL. V10:...to it shall the GENTILES seek.

A. If the kingdom of God were temporal the Gentiles would have had no part in it. But this very word--the Gentiles shall seek--declares Christ's kingdom is not of this earth.

Just as the laws given to that physical nation were a shadow which typified Christ who is the Substance and Reality, even so, that physical nation Israel was made by God as a foreshadow of God's spiritual nation Israel which is the substance and reality.

Christ's church and kingdom is made up of a spiritual people saved from among, both Jews and Gentiles. So they are told here that THE Righteous Ruler will save a people out of every nation, kindred, tongue and tribe under heaven--not every nation, kindred, tongue and tribe under heaven will be saved--but a people shall be saved by grace out of every nation, kindred, tongue and tribe under heaven. Do you know that even after walking with the Lord Jesus Christ, the disciples of the Lord still thought that his kingdom was physical rather than spiritual? **Acts 1: 6: When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7: And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8: But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

But as he poured out his Spirit on Cornelius, the Gentile, and sent forth Paul to the Gentiles, the disciples were taught that this church and kingdom is spiritual. The Lord said when the Spirit is come he will guide you into all truth.

John 18: 36: Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

Ephesians 2: 11: Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12: That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14: For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*; 15: Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace; 16: And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17: And came and preached peace (the Ensign) to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18: For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. 19: Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20: And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*; 21: In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an an holy temple in the Lord: 22: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

John 4: 21: Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22: Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. 23: But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24: God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

IV. THE REST OUR LORD AND SAVIOR GIVES IS SPIRITUAL.

V10: And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek:...and his rest shall be glorious. (glory)

A. Is it the rest the believer enjoys that shall be glorious or does this mean that Christ our Rest shall be glorious--it means both! The believer can not have one without the other.

1. Glorious rest is rest found only in the glorious one--*his rest*.
2. Glorious rest is everlasting rest--he who is our rest is everlasting and so our rest lasts forever.
3. Glorious rest is in glory--Christ our Rest is seated there now--soon all who believe shall be as well.

Isaiah 4:5: And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory *shall be* a defence.

Colossians 3: 1: If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2: Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3: For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4: When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Application:

1. Are you seeking Christ or carnal well-being? Is heaven Christ to you or streets of gold?
If carnal well-being is what you seek then your idea of Jesus is no better than a lucky rabbit-foot, it is blind, idolatrous superstition.

Those who were looking for a temporal, carnal, restoration in a carnal realm rejoiced when Christ came riding into Jerusalem at the feast of tabernacles. But when they realized they were not getting what they wanted, they turned around within the week and cried "Crucify him!" If you think that by seeking Christ that you will receive carnal wealth, and health, and cars and income and houses and such then you are not seeking Christ and in those seasons when those carnal trinkets are taken away, you curse God, just as they did.

2. Do you WANT to know Christ? Then seek HIM!

"I read my bible!" The Lord Jesus said to some in his day, "You search the scriptures for in THEM you think you have life. And the scriptures testify of me and you will not come to ME that you might have life." Seek Christ!

"I go to church!--do you go to seek carnal lessons or do you go to seek Christ?"

"My pastor tells me how I should live and I try to reform my life like my pastor says." I did not say seek to find life in your reformation--why seek ye the living among the dead? Seek Christ?

Luke 11: 9: And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 11: If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if *he ask* a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12: Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13: If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

3. Believer, let me give you a word--never let the things of this fading world discourage you. You are spiritual not carnal.

What is the difference between being spirit and not carnal?

To be carnal is to be "**alienated from the life of God**" (Eph 4: 18.)

To be in spirit is to have the Life of God abiding in us--the Life is Christ. **Romans 8: 9: But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10: And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. 11: But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. 12: Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.**

Therefore, here is the Lord's word to you, believer. Luke 12: 22-40

22: And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. 23: The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment. 24: Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? 25: And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? 26: If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? 27: Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28: If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more *will he clothe* you, O ye of little faith? 29: And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. 30: For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. 31: But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. 32: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33: Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. 34: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 35: Let your loins be girded about, and *your* lights burning; 36: And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. 37: Blessed *are* those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. 38: And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find *them* so, blessed are those servants. 39: And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. 40: Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

HIS REST IS GLORIOUS FOR US NOW! BUT SOON IT SHALL BE GLORIOUS IN GLORY--**Romans 8:18: For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.**