

With Joy You Will Draw Water From the Wells of Salvation

Isaiah 11:10-12:6

by Drew Hunter

Overview

One way the early Christians learned of Jesus Christ was by turning to the ancient prophet Isaiah who prophesied of the Messiah 700 years before his birth. In the same way, we learn from the prophet in this section that those who understand who Jesus is will be grateful and joyfully tell others about him.

1. Who is he? (11: 10). Isaiah proclaims that the Messiah is both the “shoot from the stump of Jesse” (11:1) and the “root of Jesse” (11:10). This points to Jesus’ human and divine natures. Jesus is both a king in David’s line (“shoot”) and the divine source (“root”).
2. What will he do? (11: 11-16). The Messiah will gather people to himself, both Israelites and the nations. Jesus in his ministry sought to regather Israel and after his resurrection he commissioned his disciples to create in the power of the Spirit a new multi-ethnic community.
3. How do we respond? (12:1-6).
 - a. *Give thanks* that God has turned from anger to comfort us
 - b. Exhibit *fearless trust* and not be afraid, having joy in salvation
 - c. Engage in *joyful mission* because what he has done is too good to be kept to oneself.

Quotations

“To become a Christian is to plunge your bucket into the well of salvation, pull it up, and drink deeply. If you have not yet done this, God invites you to do so. God’s heart is open to you; the well is open to you; he invites you to drink deeply of his joy. And you do that by coming to Christ—turning from your life of finding joy in every other well, and trusting him for your greatest satisfaction.

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Understanding & Application

- 1) What are real-life ways you demonstrate gratitude to the Lord? Is there something lacking or flat in your expressions of thanks?
- 2) If God has turned his anger away from you and chosen to comfort you instead, what keeps you from fully embracing His acceptance? (12:1)
- 3) The Lord is our source of strength who we can trust rather than being afraid. (12:2). Where do you need this kind of fearless trust?
- 4) Discuss which of these ways you could make known the holy One of Israel?
 - * Invite others to your home, Sunday Morning Service, or Christmas Eve Service
 - * Write a letter to a family member or friend explaining what Advent means to you
 - * Open your Small Group Christmas party to others
 - * Parents.....draw your child’s attention to Christ. Utilize an advent calendar or readings
 - * Grandparents.....tell your grandchildren about the joy you find in knowing Jesus

