

Great Cause for Praise

Isa 42:10-13 Sing to the Lord a new song, And His praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you coastlands and you inhabitants of them! Let the wilderness and its cities lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar inhabits. Let the inhabitants of Sela sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains. Let them give glory to the Lord, and declare His praise in the coastlands. The Lord shall go forth like a mighty man; He shall stir up His zeal like a man of war. He shall cry out, yes, shout aloud; He shall prevail against His enemies.

Thus far in chapter 42, God through His prophet Isaiah has introduced His Servant, His elect One, that one in whom His soul delights to His church as One who will bring justice to the Gentiles. To our comfort we were also told that this promised One is longsuffering and caring. We read that a bruised reed He will not break nor will He crush out a week smoldering ember. We considered how weak we are and how greatly we need such a caring Savior. Last Sunday we were made aware that the One speaking through Isaiah is God the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth. We listened in as He spoke directly to His Anointed telling Him that He would be given as the fulfillment of the covenant promises to God's elect. Further informing Him that He will be given as a light to the Gentiles to open blind eyes and bring them out of the prison of darkness. Closing with these words, "Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare."

We as Gentiles rejoiced in that truth as that new thing declared is that the Gentiles will be made a part of the commonwealth of Israel. This morning we shall see that this is indeed cause for rejoicing as First, we shall hear a command to God's people to sing a new song. Then we shall consider more fully who will be singing that new song. And finally, we shall learn why we will have cause to sing that new song of praise.

A. God's people are commanded to sing a new song - *Sing to the Lord a new song*

1. Calvin writes, God's favors ought to excite us to give thanks and to celebrate His praise
 - a. Regardless of whatever trials or hardships may fall upon us, the Christian has cause for song, for praise
 - b. Paul and Silas at the midnight hour, having been beaten and imprisoned lifted up their voices in praise.

Acts 16:25-26 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

- c. Let the world ever be able to hear our praise and thankfulness to God in all conditions
- d. Let us ever be ready to let the world know that our cause for praise is not in temporal blessings
- e. Our cause for praise is in our God, and our heavenly hope, and in what He has done to make our hope of heaven sure
- f. Listen to Paul cause for joy and comfort writing one of his prison epistles.

Phil 1:19-20 For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also **Christ will be magnified** in my body, **whether by life or by death.**

2. Secondly we note that it is a "new" song we are to sing
 - a. What makes it a "new song"?
 - b. It is new in the sense that it is an excellent, beautiful and elegant song in that it is not an ordinary or common song, but one that will arouse men to admiration and praise
 - c. New in the sense that it is fresh and vibrant

Lam 3:22-23 Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

- d. This salvation which the Elect One of God will provide will not be like the Old Testament shadows, but will be once and for all, perfect and complete
- e. The hymns of the Old Testament were looking through a glass darkly, we look at our King, sitting at the right hand of the Father, fully victorious
- f. It is a new song that sings of victory, our Lord reigns in the heavenly Jerusalem and all "nations flow unto it"

3. New here is contrasted with what is ordinary

- a. The songs we sing extol the infinite mercies of our God
- b. The infinite mercies revealed to us in Christ and His work in our behalf
- c. Therefore they ought to be sung joyfully with highest praise

4. Sometimes when we sing in the church we sound more like were singing in a morgue.

- a. Christian lift up you voice
- b. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord

B. Who will be singing this new song? - *And His praise from the ends of the earth*

1. The redeemed of His kingdom from the ends of the earth
 - a. This kingdom will include desert areas, wildernesses, jungles and great cities
 - b. It will extend from the mountain ranges to the sea shores of continents
 - c. From great land masses to the smallest islands of sea
 - d. It will include the small and great, rich and poor, male and female, slave and freeman

Gal 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2. The church will shout His praise from the mountain tops to the coastlands
3. God's saving grace will be known throughout the whole world giving cause for thankful praise by all men of every tribe, tongue, people and nation

*Rev 5:9-10 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood **out of every tribe and language and people and nation,***

C. What is the basis of this song of praise?

1. God, in Christ has gone forth conquering like a mighty man - **He shall prevail against His enemies**
2. We rejoice in our Lord's victory over our enemies Satan and over death
 - a. When Christ rose from the grave death was conquered

1 Cor 15:54-57 "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O Death, where is your sting? O Grave, where is your victory?" The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- b. Our Lord has defeated Satan
 - (1) The head of the serpent has been crushed
 - (2) Satan power has been destroyed

1 John 3:8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Heb 2:14-16 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

CONCLUSION: The kingdom of God is a kingdom of song, a kingdom of praise, for God has given us the victory over sin, death and hell

*The Lord shall go forth like a mighty man; He shall stir up His zeal like a man of war. He shall cry out, yes, shout aloud; **He shall prevail against His enemies.***

Rev 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

We have great cause for song –

It is true, Jesus told us that in the world we shall have tribulation but our Lord commands us not to fear for He has overcome the world