

World Without End

Thus far in this passage we have seen the reason the church has to offer praise to God in that He is our God and we are His people. We have seen that He is faithful and true to His word, for all His promises are yea and amen. Next we have seen that the Gospel is a plenteous provision "I will make a feast for all people." There is absolutely nothing lacking in His provision for our salvation. There is no need for faith plus anything, rather we rejoice in this great comfort our every need is provided and thus we rest in; "Grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone to the glory of God alone". Last week we saw that God has destroyed the veil of darkness that kept both Jew and Gentile alike from understanding who Jesus is and why He came when He poured out His Spirit on the church at Pentecost. This morning we come to verse 8 where we read, "*He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; the rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken.*" Here you see familiar quotes of this passage in the New Testament where in 1 Corinthians Paul writes, "*Death is swallowed up in victory.*" And in the Book of Revelation we read, "*And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.*" In this verse we learn these truths in Christ, in the Messiah, our last great enemy is defeated. Messiah's reign will be a reign of comfort and perfect peace. And finally the world's rebuke of God's people will be brought to an eternal end.

A. The last great enemy defeated. - "*He will swallow up death forever.*"

1. Christ has absolute authority over death

a. In regard to Himself

*John 10:17-18 "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may **take it again**. **No one takes it from Me**, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and **I have power to take it again**. This command I have received from My Father."*

b. In regard to the Christian our victory over death is from Christ

John 10:26 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish

*John 17:1-2 Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that **He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him**.*

c. Your hope and comfort is in Christ alone

2. The victory was won when Christ rose from the dead

a. Hear the angels proclamation at the tomb

*Luke 24:5 "**Why do you seek the living among the dead?** He is not here, but is risen.*

b. Paul thereby calls our Lord "the firstfruits" of all who have fallen asleep in Jesus

1 Cor 15:20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

c. The first fruits that is Jesus is **the commencement of eternal life for all believers**

3. The final victory will take place under the reign of the Messiah

a. It shall be completed fully in the morning of the resurrection, when the power of death over the people of God shall be completely and forever subdued.

*John 6:40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and **I will raise him up at the last day.**"*

b. Hear your hope this morning dear Christian

*1 Thess 4:16-18 And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus **we shall always be with the Lord**. Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

4. Death has been abolished

a. Another Old Testament promise in Hosea

Hos 13:14 "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. O Death, I will be your plagues! O Grave, I will be your destruction!"

b. Christ has abolished death

2 Tim 1:9-11 " . . . who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

B. Messiah's reign will be a reign of comfort and perfect peace. - *And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces*

1. In Messiah's Kingdom there will be no death, no sorrow, no crying, no more pain - -Why?

*Rev 21:4 there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, **for the former things have passed away***

2. The curse has been removed

3. What brings pain and suffering?

a. Rebellion against God

b. Rejection of God's perfect law

c. Heaven will be filled with a perfect love of and for God

d. Heaven will be filled with eternal praise of Almighty God

e. Heaven will be filled with perfect obedience

f. Here is how Paul says it. - *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Rom 8:18*

4. Heaven will be a place of perfect peace

5. A peace that the world cannot give and a peace that the world cannot take away (cf. Jn 14:27)

C. The world's rebuke of God's people will be brought to an eternal end

1. World counts God's people as the "offscouring" of the world

1 Cor 4:13 Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day.

Lam 3:45 You have made us an offscouring and refuse in the midst of the peoples.

*Acts 22:22 And they listened to him until this word, and then they raised their voices and said, "Away with such a fellow from the earth, for **he is not fit to live!**"*

2. Do not be amazed that the world hates you - it hates Jesus

Matt 26:66-67 They answered and said, "He is deserving of death." Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands

John 15:18-19 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.

3. But all the world's hatred will be brought to an end

a. When Jesus says "depart from me".

b. When the ungodly are cast into the eternal hell

CONCLUSION: All disgrace of the saints will be removed

We shall reign eternally with our Lord

We shall know only joy, comfort and peace

All former things will be removed

Christ in His death, burial and resurrection did not take away the fact that we have sinned, but removed the guilt and penalty of our sin.

Where do we find these promises - here in Isaiah

Truly we see Christ and His Kingdom here thus we can sing, Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end, amen, amen.