

## Jesus, The Light of the World

*Isa 49:6-7 Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'" Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, to Him whom man despises, to Him whom the nation abhors, to the Servant of rulers: "kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel; and He has chosen You."*

Because of the popularity of Dispensational teaching in the church today a terrible misunderstanding prevails amongst many in the church today for many would limit the Kingdom of God to the physical land and people of Israel. They have made a great divide between what they call the kingdom – the Jews and the church – the body of Gentile believers but that division is not made anywhere in Scripture. Rather we shall learn this morning that that would indeed be too small of a Kingdom for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ whom Scripture calls the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is not that we do not pray for the salvation of the Jewish people, in fact it is just the opposite. We do care about their eternal souls; our desire is the same as the Apostle Paul who spoke of his great heaviness and continual sorrow in his heart for those that were his brethren according to the flesh. (cf. Rom 9:2)

But as we continue this series from Isaiah regarding the Christ and His Church we shall see that the promised kingdom of our Lord encompasses the whole world. Let us then consider from the passage before us this morning these questions; What is the Kingdom that God promised His Son? How glorious is it, and are we Gentiles here this morning that are trusting in Christ alone for our salvation, part of that Kingdom this morning?

### A. What is the Kingdom that God promised His Son?

*'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.*

1. The sense here is that God designed to glorify His Son in an most glorious manner
2. God from eternity had purposed to use the descendents of Abraham as that family of men through whom the Messiah would come.
  - a. But to limit the Kingdom of Christ to that small tribe of mankind would be too small a thing
  - b. To limit the Kingdom of Christ to that small parcel of land would be too small a thing
  - c. The Kingdom of Christ must cover the world
  - d. The Kingdom of Christ must be made up of mankind from every tribe, tongue and nation

*Ps 22:27-28 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You. For the kingdom is the Lord's, and He rules over the nations.*

3. It is not that the preserved, the kept ones of Israel did not stand in need of salvation
  - a. They too need to be raised up, to be established in the true faith
    - (1) As Paul pointed out that the Jews were trusting in their own righteousness
    - (2) Their worship was trusting in the ritual of the Old Covenant
    - (3) They stood in need of the redemption purchased by the blood of Christ, the same as any sinner - Without the shedding of blood there is no salvation
    - (4) It was impossible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sin – (Heb. 10:3)
  - b. Paul points out that this is the great dilemma of the Jews who rejected Christ

Rom 10:3-4 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness **to everyone who believes.**

- c. Christ alone is the only Savior, the only means of salvation for Jew and Gentile alike
4. Thus God says to His Elect One - *You shall be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel*
5. Christ came to restore the Jews to the worship of the true and only God
  - a. To bring back, that is, to recover them from their sin and hypocrisy
  - b. Saul of Tarsus is that example of God's great love (cf. Phil 3:3-6)

1 Tim 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

### B. To limit this salvation to the Jewish nation was too small a thing – this Servant of God must also be God's salvation to the ends of the earth - *I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth*

1. Rejoice dear flock for this message of salvation has also come to us Gentiles who are also kept of God unto salvation Eph 2:1-6 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins . . . the sons of disobedience . . . and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

**But God**, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

2. God here is saying to our Lord, "I will appoint You to the higher office of extending the knowledge of the true religion to the darkened pagan world.
  - a. That You may be my salvation to the end of the earth.
  - b. And thus Christ was "appointed to be a light of the Gentiles, and his salvation was manifested to the very ends of the earth." (Acts 13:47.)
  - c. The true religion was to be extended to the pagan nations
  - d. The whole world shall see the salvation of God and this great work was to be entrusted to the Redeemer
  - e. It is this that is regarded as a high honor granted to Him
3. So great is this honor, **that it is mentioned as the highest** which could be conferred even on the Redeemer in this world.
  - a. If deemed so great an honor, shall we not also regard it as a privilege to proclaim so great a salvation to all men
  - b. May God help us to endeavor to proclaim Christ to all men

C. Who is this One who is spoken of in this passage?

1. The One who from all eternity was equal in glory, honor and power with the Father must be Lord of all the earth

John 17:5 *O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.*

1. The One whom men despised and nations hate
2. The One who humbled Himself and became obedient unto death even the death of the cross
3. The One who could have called ten legions of angels but instead became the Servant of rulers permitting Himself to be crucified
4. The One before whom kings have risen at His presence and worshipped at His feet
5. The One to whom the Father has given the nations for His inheritance and the ends of the earth for His possession.
6. It is none other than the One whom Peter proclaimed; You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

CONCLUSION: And why did the Father send His Son to *restore the preserved ones of Israel* and to be *as a light to the Gentiles*?

That the Christ should be God's *salvation to the ends of the earth*

You know I do not want to tell people about MY salvation

I want to tell people about God and His salvation about Jesus who came into the world to save sinner

And because Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners there shall be in eternity a great multitude which no one can number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues clothed in white robes who will stand before the throne and cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb! Rev 7:9-10

Therefore there shall be in eternity a great multitude which no one can number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues clothed in white robes who will stand before the throne and cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb! (cf. Rev 7:9-10)

And who is this great number?

Rev 7:14-15 "These are the ones who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Dear flock of Jesus Christ it is us who are gathered here this morning, we who have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb have been made a part of that great number

And we shall sing 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 tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God.

Truly, *the Lord who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel has chosen His Son to be the Christ* and the wonder of it all, He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world . . . to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. (cf. Eph 1:4-6)