



Sermon, Sunday June 27, 2021, “Thank the Lord! Praise His Name!”

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 12:1-6 ¹ You will say in that day: I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me. ² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵ Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Introduction: The Joy of Salvation

Isaiah was a prophet who was active in Jerusalem in the southern kingdom of Judah at the end of the 8th century B.C. Prophet is ‘Nabi’ in Hebrew. This word does not mean a prophet who speaks of future events, but rather it is a role that conveys God's will to the people as it is.

Chapters 2 through 10 of Isaiah show God's wrath against the fallen people of Israel. And Isaiah chapter 11 speaks of the Lord's promise for the restoration of the Israelites who were taken to Egypt, Babylon, and Assyria. According to God's promise, the captive Israelites will return to the lives of free people. And the people of Israel will return to the place of God's holy people. The prophet Isaiah calls this salvation. Today's text, Isaiah chapter 12, is a song of thanks and praise to the Lord for saving the Israelites from captivity.

For Christians, the greatest joy is the joy of salvation. Today's text tells us how great a joy it is. I hope that we can always enjoy the pleasure of salvation and can give thanks to the Lord.

Body: Three Salvations

The gratitude and praise of Isaiah chapter 12 is an expression of the Israel people's trust in the future salvation that the Lord has promised them. Isaiah 12:1 begins with the word '**in that day**'. **What is the meaning ‘in that day’?** It has near time, far time, and ultimate meanings. The meaning of near time appears in Isaiah chapter 11. **Isaiah 11:12 says: “He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth.”** Furthermore, **Isaiah 11:16 say, “There will be a highway for the remnant of his people that is left from Assyria, as there was for Israel when they came up from Egypt.”**

According to this verse, “**in that day**” refers to the day when the Israelites return to Israel after 70 years of captivity. Also, it is a day of glory given to the people chosen by the Lord with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

In verse 2 through 3 of today's text, the prophet Isaiah says, “**Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**”

The Lord has given us salvation in three senses. It is salvation from sin, salvation from suffering, and salvation of souls.

1) Salvation from sin



Sin breaks our relationship with the Lord. It makes us and the Lord enemies. Sin also closes the door of salvation that is open to us. And sin closes the door of blessing. Furthermore, sin causes us to lose our spiritual strength. Ultimately, sin brings us destruction.

So Psalm 90:10 speaks of human life formed as a result of sin: **“The length of our days is seventy years-- or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.”** This verse shows the constant toil and sorrow in human life as a result of sin. But we are set free from our sins because Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins. This is the salvation we received from the Lord from our sins.

Also, the Lord has saved us from the hardships of life.

2) Salvation from the hardships of life

Dear my beloved brothers and sisters! No matter how difficult the pain we experience in the world, it will be resolved if the Lord is with us. What difficulties and pains do you have?

Please don't forget! Even if we give up our lives in the face of problems, the Lord never gives up on us. So Book of Romans chapter 8 says: **“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”(Romans 8:37-39)**

I bless you in the name of the Lord that in His infinite love He will rescue us from the pain and suffering that has come in our life environment.

What is the last one given to us by the Lord as Salvation? The Lord saves our souls.

3) Soul salvation

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

The reason Jesus came into the world and died on the cross is to give us eternal life. Also, the Lord came to the earth to give us a new heaven and a new earth free from sorrow, pain, disease, and hatred. So the Bible gives us the Word for the invitation to eternal life.

Hebrews 9:27 says, “Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.”

Also Acts 4:12 says, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

And the Word declared the way for salvation clearly. **“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household.”(Acts 16:31)**

Dear my beloved brothers and sisters! The Lord has set us free from sin, delivered us from the hardships of life, and promised us eternal life. Therefore, it is the proper attitude of the saints to exalt the name of the Lord with thanksgiving and praise. **Then, how can we confess these thanks and praise to the Lord in our lives?**

Today's text Isaiah 12:4 says, **“Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name; make known his deeds among the nations, proclaim that his name is exalted.”**

First, there must be training in gratitude. The characteristic of arrogant people is that they are not thankful. Even if they earn money and become rich, even if they gain fame and popularity, or if their children do well, they are not grateful for it, because there is nothing to be thankful for the Lord has given grace to them. However, those who know the Lord's grace find the conditions of gratitude and



give thanks no matter how bad the circumstances and how difficult they are. Christians should be trained to be grateful for the little things.

Second, we must call on the name of the Lord. This means that we have to pray for our needs and wants. God gives us all we need. However, it is not freely given, but through prayer. That is why the Apostle James says firmly, **“You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.”(James 4:2).** Do you have what you need now? Then pray with joy. Prayer is a way to lead our lives to gratitude.

Third, we must declare to the world what the Lord is doing. What the Lord has done to the world must be proclaimed to the whole world. **Isaiah 12:5** says, **“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.”** Declaring the name of the Lord to the world is evangelism and mission. We experience increased appreciation and praise in the process of doing this.

Finally, we must praise the Lord every day. Isaiah 12:6 says, **“Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”**

Praise is the fruit of the lips that testify to the Lord's name. We can learn gratitude through training for gratitude, prayer, proclaiming the Gospel, and praising the Lord. Then we will become Christians filled with grace and truth, the Holy Spirit and joy, and the glory of the Lord.

Conclusion: Let's live with trust and gratitude in the Lord's promises

Now let's summarize today's sermon. At the time when the prophet Isaiah was active, the northern kingdom of Israel was in ruins. Also, Judah, the southern kingdom, was in a situation where they did not know when the powerful Assyria would destroy it. The Lord sends the message through Isaiah that the time of salvation will come to the people of Israel when they are in a desperate situation. It is a promise to accomplish salvation for the people of Israel during a time of despair. Therefore, even if our life is in the midst of suffering, we should not be discouraged. The Lord has forgiven our sins, saved us from our present pain, and promised us eternal life. We hope that we will live by trusting and being thankful for the grace of salvation.

