

**Sunday School Lesson, Tuesday, May 30th, & Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**by Pastor Dwight Benoit**

**Summer Quarter Lesson ~ June, July, and August 2023**

**General Theme: “The RIGHTeous Reign of GOD!”** [**RIGHTeousness**: the quality of being **RIGHT** in **The EYES of GOD**, including *Character* (Born-again), *Conscience* (attitude), *Conduct* (Action), and *Command* (Word). **RIGHTeousness** is based on **GOD’S standard** because **HE** is the Ultimate **LAWGIVER** (Isaiah 33: 22). **GOD is RIGHTeous—GOD is RIGHT—to Justify** (declare **RIGHT**) those who believe *in CHRIST*, because of **HIS Atoning** sacrifice for their sins; **GOD** has paid the price for our ransom (Romans 3: 21-26). **CHRIST** is The **RIGHTeousness** from **GOD** (I Corinthians 1: 30)

**Unit I, “The Prophets Proclaim GOD’S Power!”** [Their Message: **GOD** wants **HIS** people to flourish—experience Peace, JOY, Blessedness in a Community of LOVE. **GOD’S** works of Miracles, reversing misfortunes as a result of rejecting their Relationship with **GOD**, barrenness, sickness, poverty, slavery, captivity. **GOD’S Power: OMNIPOTENCE, OMNISCIENCE, OMNIPRESENCE**].

Also, The Prophets did these three things: **1.** As Covenant Lawyers, they held **GOD’S** people responsible for ‘breaking the terms of The Covenant. **2.** The Prophets called **GOD’S** people to “repent,” to turn back to **GOD**, from sin, with evidence. **3.** The Prophets spoke about **GOD’S** Judgment and **GOD’S** Hope.

**Unit II, “JESUS Envisions The KINGdom!”** [Not some hereafter but right now! It expresses “The KINGdom’s sheer immensity removes all limits on what **GOD** can do through us.”

That means that **GOD’S KINGdom** is big and board and beyond our widest imaginations. Its *fulness* can never be attained. It *resources* are never depleted. Its *seasons* is never over. When living in **The KINGdom** of **GOD**, we never get the feeling You’ve seen all this before.]

Also, note these CORE Characteristics of KINGdom Outcomes: **1.** We must *Develop* a Listening Posture as **KINGdom** subjects. **2.** We must be *Driven* by Obedience. **3.** **GOD**, and not money, is our Sole Security and Power for Ministry. **4.** *Success* is measured in terms of **FAITHfulness** not results. **5.** Avoid *Personal KINGdom*-Building. **6.** We are *Stewards* and not Owners.

**Unit III, “GOD’S Eternal Reign!”** [That is, **GOD’S** World has been established and will NEVER be moved! Oh, a New Heaven and New Earth is sure to come, but **GOD’S SOVEREIGN Rule** is Forever!]

**Lesson Subject: “Stop The Chaos!”** [anarchy (rejecting governmental authority), discord, disorder, turmoil, holy mess, rat’s nest...]

**Lesson Text: Isaiah 52: 7-12**

The Overview of Isaiah 52 is **The Glory of the Restoration** [recovery, renewal, rebuilding] of Israel [**GOD’S** people as captives in Babylon. Their captivity would end, and Jerusalem will be restored], climaxing in **The PERSON WHO** brings that Glory, namely, **The SERVANT, JESUS CHRIST!**

**Lesson Topics:**

1. **Praise** – Isaiah 52: 7-9
2. **Publish** – Isaiah 52: 10-12

But before **Praise** and **Publish**, note, **The PERSON, REDEEMER**, the last 3 verses of Chapter 51: 21, 22, 23 and verses, 13, 14, 15 of Chapter 52...

“Therefore hear now this, thou afflicted, and drunken, but not with wine: Thus saith **The LORD The LORD**, and Thy **GOD** that pleadeth the cause of **HIS** people, Behold, **I** have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling [bitterness], even the dregs of the cup of **MY** fury; thou shalt no more drink it again; But **I** will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee; which have said to thy soul, Bow down, that we may go over: and thou hast laid thy body as the ground, and as the street, to them that went over.”

[Point: Our **GOD is GRACIOUS!** A **Covenant KEEPER!** **HE** takes what is done against **HIS** own as it was done to **HIM!** Chastisement will cease and trouble will upon those who were used by **GOD** to chastise **HIS** people!]

Then The Call – “Awake, awake; put on thy strength O Zion; put on thy beautiful garment, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for henceforth there shall no more come unto thee the uncircumcised and unclean. Shake thyself from the dust . . . loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive. (Isaiah 52: 1-2) [An alert that Restoration and Release from Captivity has begun. Get up—get moving back to Jerusalem (repent)—**GOD’S Miracle Wondering Works** at before You—**GRACE** through **FAITH**... Dress, accordingly, don’t dress down—dress up... you shall be freed from Your oppressors meaning **RIGHT**ousness can fill the **City of GOD** again. Those bands that bind You, self-made: Love for ease, pleasure, fear of man and woman, pride of heart and self-righteous praise—Awake, Awake! And loose thyself! Step out into **The Liberty of GOD’S Children!**]

## 2. Praise – Isaiah 52: 7-9

The Messengers for the Rejoicing was through The Preacher Proclaimers of The Gospel, pointing out that Deliverance was a type of Redemption through **the Preaching of The Cross of JESUS CHRIST!**

[Great Blessing—**Tiding of Great JOY** ought to be excepted—Publishing **The TRUTH that GOD Reigns (JESUS** died, was buried but Rose from the dead), Luke 4: 18, Hebrews 2: 3.

“How beautiful are **HIS** feet—Though nailed to **The Cross**, **HE is The WAY**, from earth to Glory! Watchmen... set on the Walls of Jerusalem, to make mention of **HIS NAME** and to pray and wait on answered prays... “until **HE** again made Jerusalem a praise in the earth.” [When the **GOD-News** comes, ‘eye to eye,’ everyone is satisfied that the same **GOD** spoke to one as **HE** did to the other. [It’s the Promise of the Pouring out of **The SPIRIT at Pentecost**, **SPIRIT of WISDOM** and Revelation, to lead them into all **TRUTH**. **OH The Praise!**]

## 3. Publish – Isaiah 52: 10-12. When **GOD** restores it will be with **RIGHT**eousness.

[There is no **TRUE Glory** without **RIGHT**eousness]

There must be **Separation**— “Depart ye, depart ye, go out from thence, touch no unclean thing.” [Babylon is no place for **GOD’S Children**... as is the bondage of sin and Satan, for the Liberated Child of **GOD!**]

There must be **Service**— “Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of **The LORD**.”

(I Corinthians 6: 19, 20)

The SHEPHERD must be Obeyed— “**The LORD** will go before you . . . be your reward (**PROTECTOR**) You shall not go out with haste, “still away,” **NO**, “for **The LORD** will go before thee.”