

Proclaiming the Gospel

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (*1 Cor. 1.18*).

Message
of
Jesus Christ

Edifying the Body of Christ (*Eph. 4.10-16*)

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The Wise Still Seek Him

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The Highway of Holiness

I

saiah 35 is a beautiful passage, one that makes you want to be with the Lord.

This passage brings us into the joy of the Lord. However, we cannot experience joy without considering sorrow. We cannot behold Heaven without knowing there is a hell. We cannot walk in holiness without being aware of ungodliness.

Isaiah tells us this in Chapter 35. He gives us this understanding of both sides, causes us to look at both sides of life as he makes his comparison in verse eight; he then makes another comparison in verses nine and ten. All through this chapter we are given the “yes” and the “no;” the “right” and the “wrong;” the “good” and the “evil” – if you will. This causes us to look at other Bible passages that show this same teaching.

Love not the world, neither the things [*that are*] in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that [*is*] in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is **not** of the Father, but is of the world (I Jn 2.15, 16).

Paul wrote in II Timothy 3.5, 7, and 8 about those who hold to the outward form of godliness but deny the power thereof – with their lives.

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: **from such turn away**. Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

Paul wrote: “**... avoid them; reject them.**” They are unholy; have **no** fellowship with them (Rom 16.17-20; II Th 3.6, 14; II Ti 4.3, 4; Tit 3.10).

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly [Gk: *deviating from the truth*], and not after the tradition which he received of us (II Th 3.6).

There are those whose hearts, minds, and consciences are corrupt.

Unto the pure all things [*are*] pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving [*is*] nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled (Tit 1.15).

The Word says in Hebrews 10.31:

[It is] a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Isaiah 35.1 mentions the wilderness, the solitary place, and the desert. This is the area to the south and east of Judah that was in dispute with Edom. God is going to

Today is the day of salvation, of walking the way of holiness, **The Highway of Holiness** (Isa 35.8-10).

And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called **The way of holiness**; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it [*shall be*] for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err [*therein*].

No lion shall be there, nor [*any*] ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk [*there*]:

And **the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.**

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The Rev. Mrs. Dr. C. S. Cole, Pastor, Ret.

Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ

Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

cause His will to be done in this area – as well as in the dry places in our lives, our hearts. The prophet makes clear that the unclean shall not travel on the Highway of Holiness.

A state church does not have to be mandated here as in other countries, as there are those false shepherds who are already preaching the state's gospel. They are like the false prophets in Jeremiah's day, saying "Peace, peace, peace everywhere" when there is NO peace (Jer 6.14; 23.17). They are tickling the ears of the people (II Tim 4.3, 4). They are preaching goodness – **not the godly** Gospel, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God the Father, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel).

I do not hear mentioned the **Blood of Jesus Christ** that flowed from Calvary. Sin is not mentioned. Today, it is about helping everyone feel good about themselves. Satan is busy in these last days leading people to follow him and to build the one world kingdom about which we are warned (Revelation, Chapters 17 – 20) – **NOT** the Kingdom of God.

It is time we quit coming to "church" and **BECOME THE CHURCH**. Paul wrote:

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *[this]* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier (II Ti 2.3, 4).

God is not smiling, contrary to what we have heard said by those hiding behind a pulpit while standing on a pulpitum (stage). Our experiences have put us in places to hear some of the most ungodly teaching and "preaching." We have heard them say, "God wants us to laugh and have a good time" – followed by a most ungodly joke coming from behind the pulpit!

Some pastors have been told to tell the people what they want to hear, make them feel good. One person said to me years ago, "We do not come to church to hear about sin, the cross, and all that stuff. We come to church to hear about our goodness and what we do for people. We do not want to hear about that sin stuff and the blood and cross stuff anymore. Is that understood?"

In His Word, God called for a watchman who would sound the trumpet to warn His people in times of danger (Eze 3.17-27). Oh, Church, read Deuteronomy 18.9-14. Beware of all of whom this passage speaks, wherever they reside, as they are **NOT** of the Lord Jesus Christ. The enemy is so deceitful when the Word of God in Christ Jesus is **NOT** the plumbline in our lives and the life of Christ's Holy Church!

... go . . . and speak with my words to them. For thou *[art]* not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language . . . tell them, Thus says the Lord God, whether they hear, or whether they forebear. . . . I have made thee a watchman . . . therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. (Eze 3.4-11, 17-21).

The world today is in need of such watchmen. It is time to seek God's guidance, consider His warnings, and trust His promises. When we trust and follow Him, He makes us "more than conquerors" (Rom 8.37).

Remember what God told Joshua,

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *[is]* with thee whithersoever thou goest. (Jos 1.9).

The Highway of Holiness is a way of life in Christ Jesus. It is who we are in our hearts (Mt 15.19). It is to be like Jeremiah who said that the Word was like fire shut up in his bones (Jer 20.9); the fire of the Holy Spirit cannot be contained. It is a life lived for Jesus Christ that causes our speech, that causes us, to be like Jesus because He resides, abides, in us by His Holy Spirit.

The Highway of Holiness in Isaiah 35 is not a freeway to sin, as some believe it to be. It is not like the freeway with off and on ramps so that you can get onto it when you feel like it and off when you want and back on when you want. It does not have off ramps for when one is discouraged, when the enemy comes in like a flood, when one does not want to walk in obedience to the Lord.

It is not a freeway to sin, to drive crazy, to hurt people, to turn up that ungodly noise – in our lives. It is not a freeway to get on and off choosing to live in sin or to go wherever you want whenever you want (Ps 95.8-10; Heb 3.8-10).

It does not have off ramps for when persecution comes and one desires to go the way of the world for a time – to get out from under the pressure. It does not have an off ramp for when someone comes against us, and we want to escape the persecution.

Holiness is walking with the Lord in the midst of the storm and trusting Him

"Till the Storm Passes By."

"In the Dark of the Midnight Have I oft hid my face,
While the storms howl above me, And there's no hiding place.
"Mid the crash of the thunder, Precious Lord, hear my cry
'Keep me safe 'till the storm passes by.'"

Many times Satan whispered, 'There's no use to try,
For there's no end of sorrow, There's no hope by and by.'
But I know thou art with me, And tomorrow I'll rise
Where the storms never darken the skies."

When the long night has ended, And the storms come no more,
Let me stand in Thy presence On that bright peaceful shore.
In that land where the tempest Never comes, Lord, may I
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by."

(chorus)

'Till the storm passes over, 'Till the thunder sounds no more,
'Till the clouds roll forever from the sky. Hold me fast,
Let me stand in the hollow of Thy hand;
Keep me safe 'till the storm passes by."

Mosie Lister

There is no getting off when the storms come, for "there's no hiding place." We have a Savior who is pleading in glory (Rom 8.26, 27). Walk and talk with Him moment by moment as is taught in the old hymn, "In the Garden."

This is the day to put down the sin that "doth so easily beset us" (Heb 12.1). We are living in days that have led people to find it easy to go with Satan; and the "churches" have, all too often, blessed that road, the "broad road" that leads to destruction (Mt 7.13). The Lord is calling out a people who will follow Him on the "straight and narrow road" – come what may (Lk 13.23-27).