

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, September 14, 2025

1. Read Isaiah 11:1-16
2. As chapter 11 opens Isaiah envisions the landscape of Israel like a forest that has been lopped off, so that there are only tree stumps for as far as the eye can see. He then says, “There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.” What is this referring to, and why is this such a hopeful thing for Israel to hear?
3. How does Isaiah describe this promised King? What are the implications of this?
4. In describing what it will be like to live under the rule of this righteous king, Isaiah paints an idyllic scene of perfect peace and harmony throughout creation. When do you believe this is referring to and why do you believe that?
5. In speaking of the rule and reign of Christ and the presence of His kingdom we speak of it in terms of the already/not yet. What does this mean?
6. In v.10 Isaiah says, “In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the people – of Him shall the nations inquire, and His resting place shall be glorious.” What is he talking about here? Be as thorough as possible.
7. In gathering His people to Himself Isaiah makes it clear that the Lord will remove every obstacle. What obstacles does He remove in bringing sinners to Himself and how does He do it?

8. Practically speaking, why would Isaiah point the remnant to the coming of the promised Messiah and His rule and reign even as they were facing great devastation in their own time? What's the benefit of that?

9. What are some practical implications from this text/sermon?

10. Pray!

Reading of Law: 1 Timothy 6:11

"But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness."

Prayer of Confession:

Our Father in Heaven, blessed be your most holy and glorious name. You are God full of majesty and splendor; a God who is high and lifted up far above all others. In hearing your perfect law we recognize that we are a sinful people who fall short of your glory. You call us to pursue these virtues of righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, and gentleness, all of which are a reflection of your own perfect character, and yet we so often pursue those qualities which the world esteems instead. We pursue physical beauty rather than the inner beauty of righteousness and godliness. We seek to be tough rather than gentle. We chase after success in the world's eyes rather than chasing after ways we can love our neighbor. In our sinful hearts we have put great effort into impressing others, rather than focusing our effort on how we may better honor you. Father, we confess this and ask for your forgiveness. In doing so, we also ask that you would continue to sanctify us, transforming us into the image of our beautiful Savior by the renewing of our minds. For you are a gracious God who has given us a Savior who saves to the uttermost. We thank you, and ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: 1 John 4:9-10

“In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 2

Q. 3. How do you come to know your misery?

A. The law of God tells me.

[Rom. 3:20](#); [7:7-25](#)

Q. 4. What does God's law require of us?

A. Christ teaches us this in summary in [Matthew 22:37-40](#):

“‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. ‘And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ‘On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

[Deut. 6:5](#); [Lev. 19:18](#)

Q. 5. Can you live up to all this perfectly?

A. No. I have a natural tendency to hate God and my neighbor.

[Rom. 3:9-20, 23](#); [1 John 1:8, 10](#); [Gen. 6:5](#); [Jer. 17:9](#); [Rom. 7:23-24](#); [8:7](#); [Eph. 2:1-3](#); [Titus 3:3](#)

NT Reading: Romans 15:5-13

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶ that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you,

for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." ¹⁰ And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹ And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." ¹² And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.