

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Can we be comforted by being reminded of God's greatness (e.g. in the same manner as the Israelites were)?
2. How can we describe God's greatness?
3. What does God really mean to us?
4. How can we respond back to God when we experience His greatness?
5. How do we wait on the Lord?

SUMMARY:

Isaiah describes God in many ways: powerful, a ruler, compassionate, creator, wise, none like Him, all knowing, unsearchable, never tiring, supplier of strength and many others. It is well for us to understand our true relationship to God. This is the beginning of wisdom. We must realize that all we do is as nothing in God's sight, that we are as grasshoppers, or worms when compared with Him. (Job 25:6; Psalm 22:6; Isaiah 40:22) Yet in all this, He cares for those who wait upon Him. We as insignificant humans can be lifted up and given a place in His kingdom if we revere Him and serve Him. If our hearts are proud and we fail to serve Him, we will be utterly destroyed.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #6

November 7, 2004

Fourth Quarter

ISAIAH PROCLAIMS GOD'S GREATNESS

LESSON TEXT: Isaiah 40:1-31

LESSON SETTING: Isaiah comforts Jerusalem by reminding her of God's greatness.

TIME: Approximately 712 B.C.

I. **GOD, THE ALMIGHTY.** Isaiah 40:9-17

- A. God Comforts His People.
- B. His Power (vs. 10) 1 Chronicles 29:12; Psalm 65:6; Romans 16:25
- C. His Greatness (vs. 12) Psalm 104:1; 145:3
- D. His Wisdom (vs. 13-14) Proverbs 3:19; Romans 11:33; 1 Corinthians 1:25

II. **GOD, THE INCOMPARABLE.** Isaiah 40:18-25

- A. None Like Him (vs. 18, 25) Exodus 15:11; Psalm 89:6; Mark 12:32
- B. Man Insignificant (vs. 22) Job 4:17-19; Job 25:6; Psalm 8:3-4

III. **GOD, THE INEXHAUSTIBLE.** Isaiah 40:26-31

- A. Knows All (vs. 27-28) Genesis 4:9-10; Joshua 7:10-13; Isaiah 29:15
- B. Unsearchable (vs. 28) 1 Corinthians 2:10; 2:16
- C. Supplies Strength (vs. 31) Isaiah 41:10; Daniel 11:32; Ephesians 3:16

GOLDEN TEXT: *THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK AND NOT FAINT.*
Isaiah 40:31

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 2 Kings 19:14-37

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 2 Chronicles 29:1-36 30:1-29;
31:2-10; 32:24-30; Matthew 3:1-12

QUARTERLY THEME: Kings and Prophets of Judah

TOPIC: HEZEKIAH, A PRAYING KING

INTRODUCTION:

In the chapter prior to our lesson, we find all of the arguments typical of the world today. They imply it is only safe to trust in the god of this world and the things that we can make with our own hands. Even today the world ridicules the ability of God to have a tangible affect on the lives of people. Our response should be the same as that of King Hezekiah (first verse). He laid his problem before the Lord in the temple and sought the Lord's will. Had Hezekiah been asked how he felt the Lord might work, he probably could not have given an answer. But the fact remains, he did not have to know what the Lord's answer would be, he only had to lay it before the Lord and trust the Lord to answer his prayer. The answer came through the prophet reminding Hezekiah that God would handle the ungodly King of Assyria.

Earlier the king of Assyria had ridiculed saying, "If I gave you 200 horses, you could not find riders for them." He went to bed feeling secure thinking he was invincible. He arose with his world in pieces around him! His troops, in whom he had depended on heavily, had died in the night.

The person who trusts in the arm of flesh and in the things of the world will likewise wake one day to find his world in pieces around him. The person who trusts in the Lord will be strengthened, comforted, and finally will be allowed to spend eternity with God.

CENTRAL TRUTH: There is no problem too great for God, no difficulty from which He cannot deliver.

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE EFFECTUAL FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILETH MUCH.*

James 5:16

How simply God's Word states the tremendous truths of His provision for the spiritual well being of man. It would seem from a study of God's Word and an examination of the lives of men of God, as well as the experiences of our own lives, that God desires to do much more than He can generally do for man. Why? Because man will not trust God and in faith look to Him to overcome the various obstacles that arise in our lives. God tells us in Malachi 3 that His storehouse is full and His desire is to allow it to overflow into the lives of men. Often God withholds His great power awaiting just a simple prayer to intercede. It is for this reason this simple truth is so important and should be considered frequently in the lives of His believers. In everything we do, or want to do, we should consider what God would have us to do and pray often to ask that He intercede for us.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 8 - 14

- M. The Good King. 2 Kings 18:1-12
- T. The Invasion. 2 Kings 18:13-25
- W. The Challenge. 2 Kings 18:28-37
- T. *The King's Prayer. 2 Kings 19:14-21
- F. *God's Answer. 2 Kings 19:22-37
- S. The Trusting Prayer. Psalm 31:1-16
- S. The Intercessory Prayer. Acts 4:23-31