Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

The Savior King Comes

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

Isaiah 9:8-11:16

Theme: Rejoice because the Savior King comes and calls us out of exile.

Introduction: Life in this world is a mix of good and bad, of encouragement and discouragement. We need to recognize that reality if we're going to trust God as we live our lives before him. The challenges of our lives make clear where our trust is and serve as some of our prime opportunities to make clear that we are looking to and relying on our gracious God.

Here are 3 ways the Lord worked in Israel during their time of exile and restoration:

1. Reasons for exile (9:8-10:4)

The cycle of Israel's disobedience-judgment-repentance-restoration might seem silly to us. Why didn't they just obey God? Yet we, too, often disobey.

The Lord listed 4 reasons for judging them: 1) arrogance; 2) exalting human leaders; 3) lack of love and unity; and, 4) injustice.

Under it all was a lack of trust in God that fueled their rebellion.

"If you know God, then you have submitted yourself and your needs to him." (John Oswalt)

2. Ways and means of exile (10:5-34)

God promises the return of a remnant; but only after judgment and exile.

Israel leaned on others for salvation and they were betrayed. Any time we turn to anything or anyone other than God for salvation, we will be disappointed and betrayed.

God's judgment is real and unavoidable. He's never fooled. And his mercy never falters. All who turn from their rebellion and return to him will receive mercy.

3. Salvation from exile (11:1-16)

The Lord gathers his people and restores them to the land. And his salvation is public and prominent.

They way of return is Jesus himself. At the cross he satisfied the wrath of God against our rebellion so that we can be restored to God's favor.

Jesus was the shoot out of the stump of Jesse. When all looked hopeless, God brought about our salvation through him.

His kingdom is perfect, just, and impartial. He rules righteously, and in his kingdom there is true peace.

Questions:

- 1. Where are your hopes? Where do you look for strength and encouragement?
- 2. Where is it difficult to trust the Lord right now?
- 3. How can trusting Christ bring you peace?

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