Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

Comfort in the Servant

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

Isaiah 50:4-51:8

Theme: Take comfort, God has sent his servant.

Introduction: God loves to comfort his people. And he has provided for our comfort in the most dramatic and permanent way possible: in sending his Son. For the Israelites in Isaiah's day, the Lord promised comfort through a coming servant, and he reminded his people of the comfort his servant would bring.

This passage answers 3 questions related to God's comfort:

1. What is the Servant like? (50:4-9)

God's chosen Servant is highly sensitive to the word of God. He is subject to God's word, and he is eager and attentive to all it offers.

Israel, on the other hand, displayed the opposite disposition. They were consistently inattentive and disobedient to God's word. In this world, there are many alternative sources of information and many loud voices that seek to interpret life for us.

Because the Servant is inclined to God's word, he is also an able and powerful minister. He has grace and truth to offer those in need.

He is also faithful in the face of opposition and suffering. He trusts in the Lord because he knows that he will not ultimately be put to shame.

2. Who is the Servant? (50:10-11)

Here Isaiah links fearing the Lord with obeying the Servant. This testifies to the reality that the Servant is himself identified with the Lord—he is divine.

And this servant does not remain far off—he comes near to God's people in their suffering and affliction. Ultimately, he became man in order to comfort us.

But those who reject him will ultimately come to ruin. It will not due to try to walk by our own lights.

3. How does the Servant comfort? (51:1-8)

The Lord identifies those he will comfort—it is not everyone indiscriminately. It is "you who pursue righteousness." The Lord comforts his people, and more specifically, he comforts those who trust in him.

Outside of him there is no comfort.

Questions:

- 1. What role does the media (news, sports, entertainment, social) have in your life? How much intake do you have?
- 2, How do you need the Lord's comfort?
- 3. What are you praying for?

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