

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

The Redeemer Comes to the Repentant

Speaker:

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Scriptures:

Isaiah 59:14-60:22

Theme: Practice repentance and the Redeemer will come to you.

Introduction: Over the past few chapters, Isaiah has been highlighting the holiness of God and the righteousness he requires of his people. But there is a problem: Israel was not righteous. They showed a troubling lack of righteousness and justice (e.g, 59:14-15). But the Lord promises to respond—he will send a redeemer.

However, the redemption he accomplishes will only be applied to the repentant, as we find in these two points:

1. The Redeemer comes to destroy your sin (59:14-21)

The Lord looks for an intercessor among his sinful people and he finds none. No one is up to the task.

So the Lord takes the role up on himself—he will save his people.

Unlike the Suffering Servant of a few chapters earlier, this time the Redeemer comes as a Divine Warrior. This picture is not about a substitutionary sacrifice for sin, but about a victorious conqueror who defeats sin and death.

The Warrior is motivated and zealous, and his attack against sin will not be turned aside.

However, the Redeemer does not come for everyone. He comes only for the repentant—for “those...who turn from transgression” (v. 20).

Repentance is not a once-and-done task. It should characterize the whole of the Christian life.

2. The Redeemer brings benefits (60:1-22)

In the coming of the Redeemer there are many benefits for his people: they will see his glory, their losses will be restored, and his enemies will receive justice.

Those who do not repent and trust in him will instead be made to serve his people. It's a complete reversal of fortunes.

This can also help us to remember that though the wicked may triumph at points in this age, it is only temporary. God will bring justice upon his enemies.

Questions:

1. Are you discouraged in your fight against sin?

2. What is your practice of repentance? When did you last spend real time in repentance?

3. Are you more responsive to sin 'out there' (in the world) than about sin 'in here' (in your own life)?