

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

Rest in His Great  
Goodness

### Speaker:

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### Date:

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### Scriptures:

Isaiah 63:1-14

**Theme:** The Lord is a mighty, dangerous, victorious warrior but we rest assured in his goodness.

**Introduction:** In Isaiah 61:1-2, the Lord foretells the coming of a great Deliverer who will save his people. He will bring liberty, healing, and good news. Jesus quoted this passage in Luke 4 and proclaimed its fulfillment in his coming. And there is a very important convergence in Isaiah's promise: the deliverer both the Lord's favor *and* the day of his vengeance. God's favor and justice come together.

In today's passage we can understand how these complementary truths work together under 2 aspects of the Lord's character:

### 1. Mighty and dangerous (1-6)

These verses portray a grim picture of the Deliverer come in vengeance. He treads the winepress of God's wrath against his enemies. It is also noteworthy that he executes his judgment alone. No one is fighting on his side. He executes his vengeance on Edom, which had betrayed the Israelites. They also symbolize all the peoples of the earth in rebellion against the Lord. Because the Lord is holy and good, he does not negotiate or compromise. All of his ways are just and true, and in his holiness lies our security in his promises.

### 2. Great goodness (7-14)

These verses offer a marked change in tone: the promise of judgment gives way to praise. For his people, the Lord's vengeance against his enemies is part of the deliverance in which we hope. His judgment delivers us and we praise him for it. Verse 7 refers several times to God's "steadfast love." This is a translation of the Hebrew word *hesed*, referring to God's faithful, covenantal, undeserved love to his people (cf. Rom 5:8).

There are also allusions to God's deliverance of his people in the exodus: and there too we see that both salvation and judgment go hand in hand. The Lord saved his people even as he judges and destroys his enemies.

Even though the people of Israel in Isaiah's day had rebelled against the Lord, still he turned and remembered them *after* their rebellion. He is merciful and good.

### Questions:

1. Do you understand and affirm the goodness of God's wrath against evil? Do you find hope in his final judgment?
2. Do you find rest in God's goodness? How well do you understand his grace?
3. What do make of the idea of God's love for you?