

SUMMER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015

THEME: GOD DEMANDS JUSTICE

UNIT III – ADVOCATING GOD’S RIGHTS THE BIBLE WAY

“HOPE THROUGH THE COMING REDEEMER”



Sunday School Lesson No. IX – August 2, 2015

Rev. Frank A Davis, III – Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Isaiah 59:15-21

Motto Text: Isaiah 59:20, *“And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD.”*

Required Reading: Isaiah 59:1-21

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI); Word-Search 10 Electronic Library System; Standard Lesson Commentary; The Tim LaHaye Prophecy Bible; The Outline Bible by H. L. Willmington; Children’s Ministry Resource Bible; Jeremiah Study Bible Notes; Logos Bible Software

LESSON INTRODUCTION

Beloved, the world’s population has always raised an awareness to be mindful of the rights of others. When I was in grade school in the 1950’s and 60’s, I remembered that on my school report card, there was a place to mark an “X” or “✓” if we had “respect for the rights of others.” History has always had a place for and even today we reflect on “rights.” Some of the greatest struggles in our society still raise questions of advocacy for rights. Some examples are women’s rights, which include women’s rights to vote, to have abortions, to be pro-life, etc. Then there are civil rights, human rights, and some who advocate for children’s rights. In more recent days, there has been a call for disability rights, gay rights, animal rights, and so on. But in our third unit we will discover God’s rights, which can only be advocated by His people the Bible way. It is only when God is recognized and respected that humanity will find its satisfaction!

Now the nation of Israel faced a grim challenge when their Northern Kingdom was subdued by the Assyrians. And now God is preparing to overcome the Southern Kingdom of Judah and raise yet another dilemma. Who will advocate for Him before a “stiff-necked” people who are bent on pleasing themselves above the Almighty? It is from this position we present the first of five final lessons from the prophets of God.

Isaiah is our first advocate for Jehovah who shouts out to the nation that in spite of their faults and flaws, there is **“Hope through the Coming Redeemer,”** Isaiah 59:1-21.

Let us examine God’s findings concerning Judah and its constituents. Let us note that without the intercession of the Redeemer, the Nation would utterly perish because it cannot function alone. **Anticipated Power Points are:**

- **The Alienation. Isaiah 59:1-2**
- **The Accusation. Isaiah 59:3-8**
- **Their Tepid Activities. Isaiah 59:9-15**
- **The Actions. Isaiah 59:16-19**
- **Trusting the Almighty. Isaiah 59:20-21**

LESSON OUTLINE

Isaiah writes with the same fervor as Amos and Micah, who have previously exposed the faults of his nation and the fervency of Jehovah. Judgment is coming and no man can stop it except God! Let us note the following:

I. The Alienation. Isaiah 59:1-2

Verses 1-2 declare how sin separates. But Isaiah declares the hand which represents the power of God is not limited, nor is the ear of God deaf when it comes to His people. But the activities of Israel has caused an alienation between God and His people. Psalm 66:18 says, *“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.”* (Also read vss. 19-20).

II. The Accusation. Isaiah 59:3-8

The prophet Isaiah is very specific concerning the Nation. In these verses you should underline the words *“your”* (vss. 2-3); *“they”* (vss. 4-5; 8) and *“their”* (vss. 6-7). In all of these verses God uses Isaiah to shine the light of exposure upon Judah’s sins specifically. It is the omniscient Jehovah who sees, knows, and utters His accusations against this callous, compassionless congregation!

III. Their Tepid Activities. Isaiah 59:9-15

Now in these verses, God’s prophet continues to bring light upon the tepid or lukewarm activities of His timeless tenants. Remember His words to the Church at Laodicea in Revelation 3:16, *“So then because thou art lukewarm (tepid), and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.”* Dakes’ notes on verses 9-15 are summarized this way: Out of the mouth of God’s people: “Therefore in view of our many sins we are subject to oppression by our enemies, and God, Himself does not interpose to save us from them.”

The Psalmist in 11:3 writes, *“If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?”* Israel’s back was against the wall, and hope was waning at best. But God, from their tepid activities and sinful condition, restores their hope through the coming Redeemer!

IV. The Actions. Isaiah 59:16-19

When God surveyed the situation, He went into action to provide salvation. In verse 16, God says there was no man in Israel who could provide deliverance. They needed more than a Moses, Joshua or David. They had no Intercessor who could present their case before His presence!

Verses 17-19 makes it crystal clear that God Himself put on the attire of a champion and rose to the occasion to defend and set the nation free from the tyranny of adversity. David pens in Psalm 27, *“The Lord is my light and my salvation...”* Verse 19 is often used by the Church to describe God’s power to deliver, but this scripture is more specifically used for Israel’s deliverance.

V. Trusting the Almighty. Isaiah 59:20-21

“Israel’s Hope through the Coming Redeemer” will come! It, like those of us, comes by trusting in the Almighty, who sent forth His Son and our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is Israel’s Messiah. He first came through the 42 generations from Abraham, through David, and was born in Bethlehem. His name is Jesus Christ! He lived a sinless life and was crucified, died and was buried, but on the third day He arose from the grave. Jesus ascended to Heaven and is seated at the Father’s right hand, and will one day return to execute all the promises concerning Israel and the Church in the promised Kingdom!

Let us rejoice for **God’s Coming Redeemer**. Israel can rejoice at God’s promises. Jeremiah 31:31-34 speaks of His new covenant. But, all hope is tied up in **God’s Coming Redeemer, Jesus Christ**.

CLOSING:

“My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus’ blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name. On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.”

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Looking Ahead:

August 9, 2015

Jeremiah 7:1-15



Noonday Bible Study will not be held in July. Noonday study will resume on Wednesday, August 5th.