

Part II, Lesson 37

Isaiah

The Lord is Salvation

The Redeemer
Will
Come

Isaiah
59:9-21

*Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex
Curriculum*

Isaiah Part II, Lesson 37

The Redeemer Will Come

Isaiah 59:9-21

Today, we hear the situation in which the people find themselves. Read Isaiah 59:9-15a. What a sad set of circumstances. They are confessing their faults and the fact that they are in a really bad place in life. We might call this their prayer of confession. They are admitting their sadness and discouragement to God.

They are in this mess because of their own sin and disobedience. They knew that forgiveness and salvation was available. However when they look for righteousness, it is not available. They look for light. They need their way brightened so that they can get to the destination of right standing with God.

They seem to want to do the right thing and be righteous before God, but they fail. They grope and stumble like blind people; their situation is lighted like the noonday, but they are falling over their own feet as if it were so dark that they could not see their own feet.

Even though they are full of vigor, strong and healthy, they have no more ability to cope with the situation than dead people. This seems like a hopeless picture. According to them, they want to do the right thing, but are totally unable to get it right.

Then there is a sudden change: They growl like bears. Now, these are bears who roam free. These are not tame, caged bears. Think of bears loose in the woods. This bear is hungry, maybe wounded in battle by some other animal. That bear is stumbling around in the woods, growling and grumbling...the sound is threatening; it chills and arouses fear.

They moan mournfully like doves. This is an eerie sound. This is a sorrowful sound. So, what is this picture drawn so clearly here. What Isaiah wanted us to see is a nation of people in captivity, praying for relief. They are praying out loud. They are emotional about it. They make these mournful sounds that let God know their heart-felt need. It's not an act to get God's attention, it is a mournful cry from the heart in a serious time of need for God's care.

Verse twelve is confession and admission of the cause of the problem. What had caused the failure to please God? What had caused their blindness? What had caused their stumbling? What had caused their loss of strength? What had brought them to growling and grumbling? It was their own sin.

They said that their offenses (their sins) were witnesses for the prosecution. Their sins were rebellion, treachery (betrayal) and turning their backs on God. Also, they admitted that they had encouraged oppression (cruelty) and rebellion and had lied, untruth born in their own hearts.

Verse thirteen says that what justice remains is pushed out of the courts and righteousness doesn't come near them. The streets are blocked for any truth and honesty that tries to get through. They admit that if there was any truth, any honesty, you couldn't find it.

Isaiah Part II, Lesson 37

The Redeemer Will Come

He said to look for truth that wouldn't be found anywhere. And if you try to be good, try to keep from doing bad things, you become the enemy.

Read Isaiah 59:15b-21. God, who sees all looked around and was very unhappy. He saw no justice. He saw that there was no one, absolutely no one to help. No one to bring justice in the world.

So, God took it on Himself to see that there was an escape from mistreatment for people who wanted to do the right thing. With His own arm (the power of the all-powerful God) He offered salvation to anyone who would in faith reach up and grab that powerful arm. And how could He do that? He could do that because He is perfectly righteous.

God made Himself ready to do battle against unrighteousness. He wore armor on His chest...it was His own righteousness. He is blameless; no one can find anything that is no good about Him. He wore a helmet. It was salvation, that is, the hope of being saved from Satan and his evil. His war clothing included vengeance and zeal. He was, and is, an unbeatable warrior.

Dressed like that, the first thing He does is to judge the people. He will not unfairly attack anyone, but to those who have done wrong, He will repay them for their sinfulness. Repaying the islands their due, means that you can't get away from God's punishment even if you hide in a far away place. (For another picture of Godly armor, read Ephesians 6:13-18.)

Verse nineteen is a great promise. The hope offered Israel is also the hope of all people. The west refers to the Gentiles, everyone who was not a Hebrew, a descendent of Abraham. Those who are to the east, where the Sun rises, will be offered God's blessing...they will greatly enjoy His glory.

Sometime in the future, the Lord will come (referring to the second coming of Jesus). He will come to receive all those who have asked God's forgiveness and have been saved through the blood of Jesus.

Then, in verse twenty-one, God repeated His covenant with Israel. God promised salvation for all who believe His words and with whom His Spirit has entered. This reminds us of the New Testament teaching that immediately upon our confession of Jesus as Lord, His Holy Spirit enters into us as the promise of God's presence with us for eternity.

*Underlined words and phrases are to be used in completing the Student Worksheet.

Page Three

Scripture Memory: "'The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,' declares the Lord." Isaiah 59:20

Lesson Goal: To show students the danger of getting away from God, and the terrible cost of sin, and to help students see the cost of evil, especially for other humans.

Isaiah Part II, Lesson 37

The Redeemer Will Come—Isaiah 59:9-21

Student Worksheet

Listen during the lesson for this information:

1. Even though they are full of vigor, _____ and _____, they have no more ability to cope with the situation than _____ people. This seems like a _____ picture. According to them, they want to do the _____ thing, but are totally unable to get it _____.
2. They make these mournful sounds that let God know their heart-felt _____. It's not an act to get God's _____, it is a mournful cry from _____ in a serious time of need for God's _____.
3. What had caused all the terrible things for the Israelites?
4. What had made God so unhappy?
5. What did God wear in His battle against unrighteousness?

Page Four

Scripture Memory: “The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,” declares the Lord.” Isaiah 59:20

How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that the God of the Bible is the true God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus' name. Jesus' death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.