Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It

Isaiah 12: 1-6

Our text follows closely with the preceding chapter. In fact, it is directly tied with Isaiah 11. The previous chapter is a prophetic discourse that deals with the coming Millennial Kingdom and reign of Christ upon the earth. The verses we've read are a song of praise the redeemed of Christ will sing within the Kingdom, comprised primarily of believing Jews.

Since this chapter is prophetic, and written to a Jewish audience, one might question its relevance to the church. Although it was written concerning a time yet to come, one in which the church will have been raptured out, there remains great application and truth for all who have faith in Christ as Lord and Savior. This is a song that any Christian can relate and rejoice in. Their salvation will be in Christ, by faith, just as ours is.

As I read this passage I was reminded of an old hymn written by Fanny Crosby: Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It. The first stanza reads as follows:

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,
His child and forever I am.

Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

I want to examine the eternal truths revealed regarding our redemption as we consider: Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It.

- <u>I. The Gratitude in Their Praise</u> (1) And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. After their rejection of Jesus as the Christ, God dealt primarily with the Gentiles, sending Paul to minister to them. In the Millennial Kingdom, the redeemed Jews will praise the Lord for His grace and mercy. They had endured the chastening hand of God, facing judgment for their rejection, but now the righteous judgment has ended and peace and comfort reigns.
- All the saved can relate to these words of praise. I remember a time in my life when I dwelt outside the grace of God. I was in grave danger of His righteous judgment, but His grace was extended to me and I received salvation, escaping condemnation. I now enjoy perfect peace and rest through Christ my Lord. The sin and guilt of my past is cleansed in the blood of Christ!

<u>II. The Grace in God's Provision</u> (2-3) – Here Isaiah speaks of the great provision of the Lord extended to His people. This refers to a future time, but we too have received this gracious provision. Notice:

<u>A. The Sovereign</u> (2) – Behold, God *is* my salvation. Isaiah proclaims the people will recognize God as the source of their salvation. This refers to the Hebrew word *Elohim*. It speaks of God's official name, a plural noun. The Hebrew language requires a plural noun to consist of three or more. Elohim literally means, "The Strong One."

- This reveals the sovereign nature of the Triune God. Long before God created the world and humanity, He had a plan for redemption. Salvation is not a work of men's hands, but of the sovereign providence of God. I rejoice that He made a way for us through the Son!
- **B. The Savior** (2) for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and song. The Kingdom multitude will sing praise to the LORD Jehovah. This is God's redemptive name, used in association with deliverance. It speaks of the "I AM." This song was sung at the Exodus by the Red Sea. It was sung again as Ezra dedicated the Temple after captivity. It will be sung again in the Millennial, praising God for His great salvation and redemption.
- We too can sing of Jehovah. He is mentioned often in the Old Testament, but He is also found in the New Testament. In fact, I am convinced that Jehovah of the Old Testament is Jesus in the New Testament, God incarnate. We would have no salvation had Jesus not offered Himself the sacrificial atonement for sin, delivering us from condemnation.
- <u>C. The Security</u> (2) Behold, God *is* my salvation; **I will trust, and not be afraid**: for the LORD JEHOVAH *is* my strength and *my* song; he also is become my salvation. After centuries of wandering and rebellion, the Jews will again be comforted of the Lord within the homeland. They will rest secure in Him.
- Those who belong to Christ have no reason to fear. We can rest in the finished work of the cross. We are secure within the family of God. The world did not secure my salvation and it cannot take it away. John 10:28-29 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. ^[29] My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand.

- **D. The Supply** (3) Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. After years of drinking from the empty cisterns of the works of the flesh, the Jews will draw from the deep, living well of salvation. Their suffering and misery will be turned to great joy in Christ.
- I can relate to that as well. I remember drinking from the wells of the world, seeking to find peace and satisfaction. They always left me empty, desiring more. In Christ I now draw from His deep well of living water. It provides all I need and is never in short supply. Just as the woman of Samaria, one drink of Jesus' living water and I never thirsted again. Even today when I am thirsty within my soul, I can draw from the deep well of salvation!
- <u>III. The Generosity in Their Proclamation</u> (4-5) Here Isaiah reveals the people will be called upon to generously praise the Lord. Consider:
- <u>A. The Admiration</u> (4a) And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD. Surely God was worthy to be praised for all His marvelous works and wondrous grace. The people will offer praise in admiration to Him.
- There is a great need for praise in our lives as well. None have done for me what Jesus did. As I survey the cross and the empty tomb, I stand amazed at His goodness and grace. He is worthy of our admiration and praise!
- **B. The Supplication** (4b) Praise the LORD, call upon his name. God had not brought them that far to abandon them now. The people will be encouraged to call upon His name in thanksgiving, supplication and prayer. He is faithful to His own, and will never forsake the redeemed.
- What comfort that brings to us as well. I have never had a need He couldn't supply. He is willing and able to meet our needs. He is more aware of them than we are ourselves, but many times in Scripture we are admonished to seek the Lord in prayer. It's good to know we have access to the throne of grace and serve a Lord who is mindful of our needs!
- <u>C. The Exaltation</u> (4c-5) declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. ^[5] Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this *is* known in all the earth. These will have experienced the abundant mercy and grace of God. In that day they will declare His great works among the people of all nations.

• We too bear this responsibility. Christ has redeemed us from sin and reconciled us to God. If anyone ought to offer praise, it ought to be the Christian. We need to proclaim His grace to all we meet. May we be a people who testify of our precious Lord!

<u>IV. The Glory of God's Preeminence</u> (6) – Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee. Here we discover the praise of the people concerning the sovereign, preeminent Lord. Consider:

<u>A. The Position</u> – Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion. They are referred to as inhabitants of Zion. They were brought into the Millennial Kingdom by the grace of God, redeemed in Christ. They were no longer apart from grace, but accepted of God through Christ.

• We are not represented in this number, but we too have a position worthy of praise unto the Lord. I have been brought out of the bondage of sin, cleansed and forgiven, adopted into the family, and made a partaker of the divine inheritance. Surely the position of a believer in Christ will stir a shout of praise. He is worthy of our worship!

<u>B. The Presence</u> – for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee. In that day, Christ will have returned and established His kingdom here on earth. They will dwell in the literal presence of the Lord. He will be in their midst.

- No doubt that will be a wonderful time, but the saved enjoy His presence even now. We are indwelt with the Spirit of God, our bodies serving as the Tabernacle. We enjoy His gracious presence as we walk upon this earth. When our life down here is through, we will meet the Lord and there we shall ever be. To be absent from this body is to be present with the Lord.
- Isn't it amazing that God would dwell among us through His Spirit? Isn't it amazing that such provision was made? We could've lived our lives never knowing the presence of God, but He desires to fellowship with us. I praise Him for that. There is nothing like sweet communion with the Lord. We are blessed beyond measure!

Conclusion: I trust you have been challenged and encouraged through this passage. Although it speaks of the redeemed Jews, we share spiritual similarities with them. The blessing is that we can enjoy it right now. Christ has already provided the means of salvation. We don't have to wait to receive His blessing. Do you know Christ as Savior? Are you enjoying His many benefits today? If not, I urge you to seek Him and respond to His call in salvation!