

Isaiah 51:1-52:12

8-15-05

“Your God Reigns!”

1. **Intro:**

- 1.1. Here’s a chapter to **encourage** is people!
 - 1.1.1. It will be a time of **singing** but 1st...**Shhhhh...listen!**
- 1.2. **Outline:** 3 **Listen to Me’s**; & 3 **Awake Awake’s!**

2. **LISTEN TO ME! (51:1-8)**

- 2.1. **PAST!** (1-3)
- 2.2. Look to **Abraham** your father & founder; **the rock** from which they were cut.
- 2.3. **I called him alone!** – His dad **Terah** died; **Lot** took off; **Hagar** was sent away; **Isaac** was laid on the altar;...**but the fire in Abraham’s heart only grew brighter!**
 - 2.3.1. **Don’t despair if you are asked to stand alone for God!**
 - 2.3.2. “One acorn, when the life of nature touches it, may become parent to a forest!”
- 2.4. God blessed **Abraham** & He would bless **Zion!**
 - 2.4.1. This is **Jerusalem(Zion)** in the millennium when the land of Israel becomes like Eden.
- 2.5. **Wilderness like Eden** – Though once you were an **orphan** & an **outcast**, you now have a **seal** on your forehead, & a **ring of faithfulness** on your finger. You are now a prince/princess to God!
 - 2.5.1. If he can change a **desert** into a **garden**, **then** he can make your **barren heart** sing for joy again!
- 2.6. **FUTURE!** (4-6)
- 2.7. (4) In the millennium God’s word & Justice will govern all the nations
- 2.8. (5) **Resting on His arm!**
 - 2.8.1. **Q:** What else will you lean on? **Q:** Who else?
 - 2.8.2. **Q:** Can you bless the hurricane in your life that drove you to Jesus?
 - 2.8.3. **Collapse in His arms!**
 - 2.8.4. Show the strong man how strong you are in your weaknesses... when underneath are *His everlasting arms!*
 - 2.8.4.1. **Andre(Jennifer)** holding baby **Lucas** in his one arm after service.

- 2.9. **PRESENT!** (7,8)
- 2.10. (7) Don't fear the insults of men.
- 2.11. (8) With **God** on our side we are always the **strong majority!**

3. **AWAKE, AWAKE! (51:9-52:10)**

- 3.1. **THIS IS THE CALL FOR GOD TO ACT!** (9-11)
 - 3.1.1. Rahab, & wounded serpent, & made the depths of the sea a road are all speaking of Egypt.
- 3.2. **GOD WILL ACT!** (12-16)
 - 3.2.1. God reminds them of His greatness!
 - 3.2.2. He comforts...So, in whom should you be afraid? (Baby-Ionians?)
 - 3.2.2.1. Believe that God has placed Himself **between you & all your enemies; between you & all your circumstances!**
 - 3.2.3. **Q:** How are we to **fear** in light of this passage?
 - 3.2.4. (13-15) Is not the Creator greater than the Calamity?
 - 3.2.4.1. **Q:** Oh, tempest tossed believer, are you dishonoring your Master by unworthy doubts & fears?
 - 3.2.4.2. The forces of **evil** are strong, but **God** is stronger.
 - 3.2.4.3. The **clouds** threaten, but the **sun** is shining.
 - 3.2.5. (16) God will protect his people! – **He'd got you covered!**
 - 3.2.5.1. I picture a boy, the sun reflecting through his magnifying glass, which is aimed at a bug. To protect that bug you interrupt the sun beam with the back of your hand.
 - 3.2.5.1.1. **Result?** The bug no longer feels the wrath of the sun...but the hand takes it all!
 - 3.2.5.2. It speaks of: safety, protection, peace!
 - 3.2.6. During the **Sepoy mutiny** in India (*Sepoy=Indian soldier under British command*), when a number of English men & women were shut up in a quarter of Cawnpore, expecting a terrible death by assault or slow starvation, a torn page of the Bible containing **this passage** (vs.16) was found on the street pavement & was of **unspeakable comfort!**
 - 3.2.7. **You are my people** – that is also the churches hope.
 - 3.2.7.1. This is our **song**, we are **safe** in the shadow of His hand!
- 3.3. **THE CUP!** (17-23)
- 3.4. **Discipline Time!** (17-20)
- 3.5. **Q:** Has it been **God** that has been lethargic? **No**, it is His people!

- 3.6. Wake yourself!(ESV); Rouse yourself!(NASB)
 3.6.1. **Why?** Because God is about to bless the city!
- 3.7. (17) Inebriated with sin.
 3.7.1. **They even drank the Dregs!** - small solid particles found in liquids such as **coffee** or **wine** that sink to the bottom of a container.
- 3.8. (17) **Picture** of a **cup!** (like drinking a cup of poison, till empty!)
- 3.9. (18) **Picture** of a **blind woman!** (stumbling in the dark)
- 3.10. (20a) **Picture** of **youth fainting** in the streets! (i.e. passed out drunk)
- 3.11. (20b) **Picture** of an **antelope** caught in a net!
- 3.12. **Their time of discipline is over!** (21-23)
 3.12.1. **And never again to drink of that cup!**
 3.12.2. Jesus talked much about "*the cup*" – His blood shed, new cov.
 3.12.2.1. We always talk about **the Cross** representing **God's love**(which it does), but equally so.. **His Wrath!**
 3.12.3. **Jesus Himself** would drink the cup of judgment to the **last dregs!**
- 3.13. (21) **Drunk but not w/wine** – Sounds like Pentecost results(2:15)!
 3.13.1. Eph.5:18 "**be not drunk w/wine,...but be filled w/the H.S.**"
 3.13.2. **Q:** Have you ever been accused of "*so walking in the Spirit*" that they thought you were drunk?
 3.13.2.1. I remember laughing fits with my friends over something dumb.
- 3.14. (22) **...God, who pleads the cause of His people!** –
 3.14.1. We forget too often that he pleads are cause(s).
 3.14.2. **Q:** **Even when we have sinned against him? Yep!**(22b)
- 3.15. (23) This is **wrath transference!**
- 3.16. **Lie down that we may walk over you** – An allusion to the practice of making captives lie face downward on the ground, & using their backs as a road to walk on.
 3.16.1. **Saddam** – **Helmets in streets** 2 main entrances of Baghdad. Enemy soldiers were buried feet 1st, helmets exposed for the roads speed bumps.
- 3.17. **REDEEMED!** (52:1-10)
- 3.18. Possibly see vss.1&2 as illustrating a **slave** bought out of slavery.
- 3.19. Look at our part! (**see verbs/in purple**)
- 3.20. (2) **Loose yourself from the bonds of your neck** – **Take my yoke upon you!**
 3.20.1. **Q:** What(or who's) yoke are you sporting tonight?

- 3.21. (7) A **redeemed** people should be a **rejoicing** people!
- 3.22. The clarion call – “**Your God reigns!**”
 3.22.1. (A timeless cry!) (a message for the whole world)
- 3.23. **How did Paul use this in Rom.10:15?**
 3.23.1. Shout the glorious gospel from the mountain tops!
- 3.24. (8) **Eye to eye** – or, face to face. This is how they will see the Lord when he returns.
- 3.25. (9) Even the **ruins** are urged to sing for joy! (And there’s many!)
- 3.26. (10) **Missionary document in Embryo!**
- 3.27. (12) I like putting together these 3 verses!
 3.27.1. Jer 18:6 “**Look, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand...**”
 3.27.2. Is.51:16 “I have **covered you with the shadow of My hand**”
 3.27.3. Is.52:12a “**the Lord will go before you.**”
 3.27.4. Is.52:12b “**the God of Israel will be your rear guard.**”