

Expect Jesus to Save Isaiah 49:1-7

Introduction

Paul had a dream, in which Jesus told him that He would save many people in the city. What if we had a dream in which Jesus told us that He would save many in our neighborhoods and workplaces?

Even if we don't have such a dream, this is what God tells us to expect in Isaiah 49:1-7.

What does God promise to Jesus?

God promises that Jesus will bring salvation — not just to Israel — but to the end of the earth.

What's so shocking about this promise?

It's shocking because at the end of Jesus' earthly ministry He looked like a failure.

V.4 — like He had labored in vain

V.7 — He was despised and abhorred by the nation of Israel

So how can God make this promise?

Because God is sovereign — He can do whatever He chooses to do.

He raised Jesus' corpse from the dead.

He poured out His Spirit upon Jesus' followers.

He saved 3,000 on the day of Pentecost.

He is now causing Jesus' salvation to spread to the ends of the earth.

What does this mean for us?

This means we can expect Jesus to save people in our neighborhoods and workplaces.

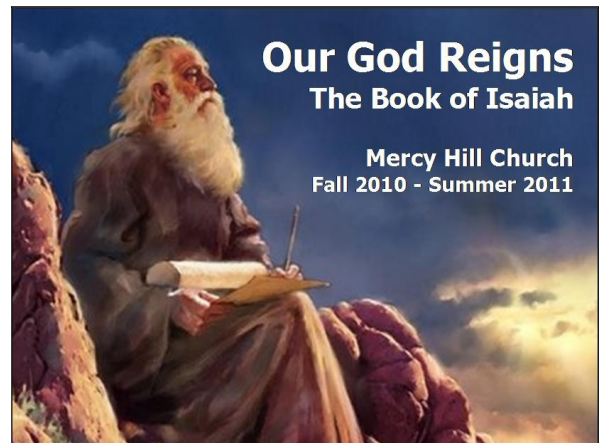
From Isaiah's perspective in Jerusalem, San Jose is "the end of the earth."

Jesus calls and promises us to make disciples wherever we are.

What can we do?

Ask honestly: do I expect Jesus to save people in my neighborhood? In my workplace?

Let God's promise to Jesus ring in your ears: I will make you a light of the nations that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

What would you do differently if in a dream tonight Jesus told you He was going to save many in your neighborhood? In your workplace? What does that show you?

Do you agree that God calls us to expect Jesus to save people in our neighborhoods and workplaces? Why or why not?

Why is it that we stop expecting Jesus to save people? How can we overcome these factors?

Which of the three steps is most crucial for you — with where you are at right now? Why?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

