

Further up, Further in

Resources for Continued Study

“REJOICING IN GOD’S RESCUE”

For individual study or group discussion

Outside of the quiet countryside town of Knutsford Cheshire in the UK, you can visit a pub that was built in 1839 and previously called *Warren de Tabley Arms*. Renamed the *Bells of Peover*, after the Bell family, who were local brewers, this inconspicuous pub has a very auspicious history.

You see, it was at this provincial pub that General Patton and General Eisenhower met one day over lunch. To the local townspeople, who were used to seeing General Patton walking his dog along the lanes of their town or observing the presence of American soldiers who were stationed there to escape the blitzes of London, these locals didn’t take note of this solemn luncheon. Little did they know that this meeting would change the course of the war and bring freedom to the world. Because it was at the *Bells of Peover* that the generals devised their plan for the D-Day landings at the Battle of Normandy.

As we turn to today’s passage in Isaiah, we see hope of rescue for God’s people as the Father participates in an intra-Trinitarian conversation (v. 21), making plans to deliver his people from the hands of their enemies.

- Read vv. 14-16. What is God’s rescuing response as he looks and finds “no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede”?
- After reading v. 17, what New Testament passage does this verse bring to mind? How are we to use this armor in our daily walk with the Lord? (See Eph. 6:10-20.)

In his commentary on Isaiah, John Calvin wrote, “Hence we see God’s infinite love toward us, who loves us so ardently that he bears hostility to our enemies, and declares that he will render recompense to them.”

- To whom does God promise to bring salvation? Retribution? (See vv. 17-20.)
- As you pray today, meditate on the words of the psalmist as you read Psalm 94. What are the parallels that stood out as you read the psalm? How does this psalm prompt you to pray for yourself and for our world?

Have you ever been comforted or given hope by a promise made by someone you love? As we look at the conclusion of this chapter, Isaiah reminds us of God’s promise of unending love and loyalty, his *hesed* —a Hebrew word used frequently in the Psalms to emphasize God’s covenant faithfulness and mercy towards his people.

- What comfort does God’s sure promise bring to you and your family after seeing the utter failures of God’s people from our previous study of vv. 1-15a?
- Take a moment now to think of someone with whom you could share the truths of God’s promise of deliverance, someone who is struggling with the oppression of sin and the anxiety it brings, and share the good news of God’s promise of rescue!

“I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (Jer 31:33).



LOOKOUT
MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

DATE: October 10

SPEAKER: Frank/Brian

SERIES: Isaiah

PASSAGE: Isaiah 59:14-21

Family Dinner Table

Alistair Begg, pastor of Parkside Church in Ohio, once re-told the story of the thief on the cross to his congregation in a message entitled *The Power and the Message of the Cross*. In an illustration, Dr. Begg explains how Christ alone can deliver us from our sins and our enemies. He sets up an imaginary dialogue between the thief on the cross and an angel at the gates of heaven:

“What are you doing here?”

“I don’t know.”

“What do you mean you don’t know?”

“I don’t know.”

“Excuse me, let me get my supervisor.” [They go get their supervisor angel.]

“So, just a few questions for you. First of all, are you clear on the doctrine of justification by faith?”

The guy [thief] said, “I’ve never heard of it in my life.”

“And what about the doctrine of Scripture?”

This guy’s just staring — and eventually, in frustration, [the supervisor] says, “On what basis are you here?”

And he said, “The Man on the middle cross said I can come.”

At the dinner table tonight, [listen to Dr. Begg’s short sermon illustration](#) and rejoice in God’s promise of rescue.

PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

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