Isaiah

The Lord Is Salvation

Sing

Thanks

Isaiah 12

Lesson Twenty-One

Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum



Sing Thanks

In the twelfth chapter of Isaiah, we find singing. We have just read in chapter eleven that God is going to destroy all evil and bring perfect peace. This was spoken to a nation that was in serious trouble. They were threatened from all sides. But, God was promising that things were going to get a lot better. Where there had been war, there would be peace. This is a time for singing.

The writer of Isaiah must have thought that this was a great place for a victory song. There are actually two songs. The first is Isaiah 12:1-3. The second is Isaiah 12:4-6. Read Isaiah 12:1-6.

These two brief songs recognize God as the someone who makes things happen. He is the one to be praised and thanked. He alone is the Savior of the Jews. He alone will comfort the Jews. He alone is the Savior of all humans.

The Old Testament is full of songs of rescue and freedom. Some have compared the songs here with Psalm 116. Verses eight and nine of that Psalm say, "For You, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living."

Others have compared these songs to the song of Moses in Exodus 15:1-18. Moses and the people of Israel had just watched the sea cover and destroy the army of Egypt. There are even similar phrases in the songs. In Isaiah, God was promising defeat of Israel's enemies again. It's time to sing.

This is a good reminder to anyone of any time that when we depend on our own strength, we often lose the battle. However, when we depend on God's strength, when we see Him at work in the war, we see victory. It is always a victory after which we should sing a song of praise. When we experience God's forgiveness, His light on our dark path, His freedom from our earthly burdens, we will be forced to sing, whether we can carry a tune or not.

One of the greatest lines in the songs is the third verse of the twelfth chapter, "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." Typically, the villages would have one community well. The people would go there to get all the water they needed. It was a gathering place for the people. We can imagine the children who went with their mothers to draw water, playing and singing together. We can imagine the mothers chatting with their friends while finding joy in getting enough water to do cleaning and cooking. It would have been a happy place.

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When you think about it, singing joyously is the way of being grateful for even the simple things of life. Those walking to the well, those in fellowship around the well and those taking home the water from the well could be joyful and thankful. In this beautiful verse, the people are being reminded of the joy they find in God's help.

But there is an even deeper meaning. Jesus is quoted in John 4:10. He was talking to a Samaritan woman at a well. <u>He said that there was a "gift from God." It was "living water."</u> The people of Judah were told that they could draw water from "the springs of salvation." Not only would they be saved from their human enemies, but the greatest joy would be found in salvation for their souls. This is the first place Isaiah uses the word salvation. His name, you will remember means "The Lord is Salvation."

The Christian church finds great joy in the salvation purchased by the blood that Jesus shed on the cross. We can go to the well of salvation and find there eternal safety in Christ. We have a lot to sing about.

In the second song, beginning in verse four, we find God's instruction to Judah. <u>He said, (1)</u> sing out loud. (2) Sing so that the whole world will hear. (3) Tell the whole world what great things God has done. The world needs to know (4) that God's name is holy and should be treated like that.

He said, "Shout aloud and sing for joy." Don't just sing, get the attention of the world and sing a song of joy that will be attractive...a song that will make the world want to listen...a song that will show them just how wonderful God is, and how much they need Him.

Finally, the song says that the Holy One of Israel is great. We are reminded of Christian songs like "How Great Thou Art," "Great is Thy Faithfulness," "How Great is Our God," and many others.

And, the song says that this "Holy One of Israel" is "among you." God is great, He is holy, He is far, far greater and holier than any of us. However, He is with us. It is His choice, *He chooses to be with us.*

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Scripture Memory: "Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song. And He has become my salvation." Isaiah 12:2

Lesson Goal: To show students God's promise of a perfect King who brings peace.

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



Student Worksheet

Sing Thanks—Isaiah 12

As the teacher goes through the lesson, listen for answers to these:

- 1. How many songs are there in the twelfth chapter of Isaiah
- 2. Some have compared the songs here with Psalm .
- 3. When we experience God's ______, His _____ on our dark path, His freedom from our earthly _____, we will be forced to _____, whether we can carry a tune or not.
- 4. Jesus told the Samaritan woman that there was a gift from God available to her. What was it?
- 5. The second song had four instructions for Judah. What were they?

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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.