

## Expectig Peace

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Isaiah 11:1–10; Matthew 3:1–12; Romans 15:13

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Battling covid. Think everything is alright. But its not. You do too much and it comes back to let you know, things are not ok.

Judah had not had a war or a battle in half a century but things were not right.

Unlike other nations, Assyrians were smart. They got on the inside of nations and destabilized them and the prophet saw it happening.

He saw that the Assyrians were going to overthrow Judah because they had stopped trusting and following God.

Instead of turning to God they decided to make an aliance with the Syrians and Israel. That was the wrong partner.

They needed to follow God.

None of this is going to work out and God was saying I know it. But one day you will return to me and I will rebuild you.

[Isaiah 11:1–10](#) (NIV)

**11** A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;

from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

2 The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—

the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and of might,

the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—

3 and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

5 Righteousness will be his belt  
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

6 The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;  
and a little child will lead them.

7 The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

8 The infant will play near the cobra's den,  
the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

9 They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

Advent Message Series.

Expecting Jesus

Expecting Hope. Getting alone with the holy ghost and look at the areas of your life that don't reflect God's promises. Hope in God for those areas to change.

Peace that Jesus brings to our lives.

Good news to the poor, wolf and the lamb, serpents won't hurt the children. Exciting promises but its easy to miss what comes first.

God has to make room for that hope and peace.

Judah had grown so comfortable in her wealth and prosperity that she no longer needed God.

The ways of God are unchanging.

Israel and Judah are a mighty tree that is being chopped down by sin.

[Isaiah 11:1](#) A shoot will come out of the stump of Jesse.

Jessee father of David

Modern prophet saying after a time of wilderness America will once again have a President the was elected by the people.

That's the worst place you can be.

Jesus is coming and he is going to set things right.

Don't waste your struggle. Don't give it to the enemy.

Last week we talked about the mountain of the Lord. The high place where we meet with God.

Deliverance -> Wilderness -> Promised Land

Know whats missing? The bondage. Slaves to the enemy.

Easy to slide into. There was a time there were things you wouldn't do bc Christian. Now they don't bother you. Set aside the Lord's day to fellowship, serve God and His Church, sit under the preached word. Now its just another activity. First thing was pray now its an afterthought.

Bondage to the ways of this world.

Judah made the pragmatic choice. Join forces with Syria and Israel against the Assyrians but it wouldn't work. The mighty tree that was the house of David had been cut down.

The devil is sneaky. He works from the inside.

Not a false prophet. Someone you trust, not that big of a deal. You don't really have to trust God. Don't really have to go to church. Working on the inside.

Finally you realize your in bondage. The lord delivers you but now you got the wilderness.

The wilderness is a place of formation.

Deconstruction

Toxic immediacy and urgency Allow time to learn

What the new leadership will look like - a time of cooperating with Holy Spirit

Verse 2

No longer fighting with God.

[Isaiah 11:2](#) (NRSV)

2The spirit of the Lord shall **rest** on him,

Comes with three pairs of Spiritual gifts:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, The ability to govern your life

the spirit of counsel and might, Authority to Rule

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. two nouns bound to God's name who is source

Give the allowance of time

- Encounters with God
- Counter Cultural Spiritual Formation
- Mission of the Kingdom

This has always been God's plan to keep you free. This keeps the Holy Ghost at work in our lives.

They wondered from God and lost their blessing.

Maybe you were lost focus but God said its gonna live again.

[Isaiah 11:10](#) (NRSV)

10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, **and his dwelling shall be glorious.**

**Its gonna grow again in your life**

The prophet John the Baptist. Free from the bondage of dead religion is preaching in the wilderness.

The promised Land, the kingdom of God is at hand.

[Matthew 3:1-12](#) (NASB95)

*The Preaching of John the Baptist*

1 Now in those days John the Baptist \*came, preaching in the **wilderness** of Judea, saying,

2 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

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7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

8 “Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance;

9and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham for our father’; for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham.

10“The axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

**11**“As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

12“His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

From the time of his birth, the message has been the same. The world needs to make room for Jesus. but in much of the earth there is no room at the Inn.

We understand when we talk to the lost.

The backslidden

The church?

In this Christmas season we need to turn to God and expect Jesus to come and change things.

Judgment means change.

Judgment is only scary when you don't think the judgment won't go your way. The poor are waiting for their day in court.

Jesus represents revolutionary change and the people came out in to the wilderness to see it.

What we see is that evil prospers. What we anticipate—what we literally live for, in Advent—is the fulfillment of the transformative justice of the kingdom, when right will be vindicated as right, and wrong clearly identified as wrong.

Judgment comes but he wants us to pass that test.

We know the test so we get an A

He will cut down the old tree of religion. He wants to make room for something new.

[Romans 15:13](#) (NASB95)

13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.