

Sermon 8: Longing for History's Greatest King: Isaiah 11:1-5

Text: Isaiah 11:1-5 "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins..."

Theme 1: Failure: The backdrop for history's greatest King: 11:1 "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots..."

- **The nation was thoroughly corrupt:**
 - **Isaiah 1:4** "Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward..."
 - **Isaiah 5:7** "The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry..."
- **The Davidic line was thoroughly corrupt:**
 - **Isaiah 1:23** "Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them..."
 - **Isaiah 7:13** "Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?"
- **The nation and Davidic Line would be cut off to the ground, but not forsaken: Isaiah 6:11-12** "Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, And the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land. But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return...and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof..."
- **God will raise up a holy people and a perfect King from the stump:**

- **Isaiah 2:2-4** "It shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more..."
- **Isaiah 9:6-7** "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this..."

Theme 2: Supremacy: The character of history's greatest King: 11:2-5 "The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him..."

- **His ruler will be empowered by the Spirit: 11:2** "The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him..."
- **His character will have the following qualities: 11:2** "The spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD..."
 - **Wisdom:** Seeing an issue from God's perspective and acting in that direction.
 - **Understanding:** Comprehending the full complexity of an issue.
 - **Counsel:** Executing a fully considered course of action.
 - **Might:** The strength to implement a necessary course of action.
 - **Knowledge:** A full comprehension of the people being governed.
 - **Fear of the LORD:** An absolute submission to God's will.
- **His wisdom will be distinct: 11:3-5**
 - **He will be decisive and accurate in His judgments: 11:3** "Make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD..."
 - **He will not be limited by flawed human witnesses or by conflicts of interest: 11:3**
 - "He shall not judge after the sight of his eyes..."
 - "Neither reprove after the hearing of his ears..."
- **He will rescue the oppressed: 11:4** "With righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth..."

- **He will judge the wicked: 11:4** "He shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked..."
- **His judgment will be perfect: 11:5** "Righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins..."
 - "Righteousness"
 - "Faithfulness"

Theme 3: Faithfulness: The fulfillment of history's greatest King:

- **Christ is the Root and the Branch:**
 - **Further OT Prophecies:**
 - **Jeremiah 23:5** "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth..."
 - **Jeremiah 33:15** "In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land..."
 - **Zechariah 3:8** "Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH..."
 - **Zechariah 6:12** "Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD..."
 - **NT fulfillments:**
 - **Romans 15:12** "Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust..."
 - **Revelation 5:5** "Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof..."
 - **Revelation 22:16** "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star..."
- **Christ was empowered by the Spirit at the beginning of His ministry:**
 - **Luke 3:22** "The Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased..."
 - **Luke 4:18** "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives,

and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised..." a direct quote from **Isaiah 61:1**

- **Christ will judge the earth with the words of His mouth:**
 - **2 Thessalonians 2:8** "Then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming..."
 - **Revelation 19:15** "Out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God..."

Application:

- **Failure:** All human governments and leaders will fall short of this standard.
 - Never put your hope in men.
 - Put your hope in God.
 - Don't doubt His faithfulness to accomplish what He promised.
- **Supremacy:** Christ is our only hope on several levels.
 - Salvation from the penalty of sin.
 - Salvation from the destruction of sin in this world.
- **Faithfulness:** God is faithful and will accomplish what seems humanly impossible.
 - Do not judge the present and the future by the noise.
 - Judge the present and the future by God's promises now and forever.