

Series: Joy to the World IV (Advent 2022)

Text: Isaiah 35:1-10

HI: The Lord's arrival turns a weary world joyful.

Title: *Home*

Hook: "Home"

Date: 12.18.22

Purpose: To fortify God's people with the news of Christ's arrival, which brings real joy to a weary world.

FCF: Like the original readers, we long for home in this weary world. God's grace rings through the prophet's poem, as news of ransom and redemption shines through.

COR: We all understand the draw of home, all the more so because this world isn't it. This passage speaks of a place that is, and a time in the future where all the sadness of our world is turned to joy. There is only way to this future.

Witness of Christ [WC*]: 35:10 → Isa. 43:1 → Mark 10:45

Apologetic: We get the difference between home and not-home. This text tells of joy that can be had through connection to our creator. This connection is one he makes by means of his arrival.

Form: Deductive

Outline:

I. The arrival of the Lord transforms the landscape of this world. (1-10)

A. News of his justice provides peace. (3-4)

B. Signs of his presence give hope. (5-7)

C. Word of our access brings joy. (8-10)

Main Idea:

Subject: What will the arrival of the Lord bring?

Complement: Transformation of the unfertile wilderness into an oasis of joy.

Exegetical Idea: The arrival of the Lord transforms the unfertile wilderness into an oasis of joy.

Theological Idea: The Lord's arrival builds a way of joy through a weary world.

Homiletical Idea: The Lord's arrival turns a weary world joyful.

Introduction:

Home:

noun / the place where one lives permanently, especially as a member of a family or household.

READ Isaiah 35:1-10

Isaiah 35:1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (Isa. 35:1-10 ESV)

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RE-READ Isaiah 35:1-2

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² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

I. The arrival of the Lord transforms the landscape of this world. (1-10)

Desert // crocus [PIC: side by side Dessert vs. Crocus- Note person: FIND IMAGES]

RE-READ Isaiah 35:3-4

³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

News of his justice provides peace. (3-4)

Hebrews 12:12: Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees,

READ Isaiah 35:5-7

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Signs of his presence give hope. (5-7)

"The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them" (Luke 7:22).

"Thorns shall grow over its strongholds, nettles and thistles in its fortresses. It shall be the haunt of jackals, an abode for ostriches." Isa. 34:13

Psalm 44:19: yet you have broken us in the place of jackals and covered us with the shadow of death.

Psalm 63:10: they shall be given over to the power of the sword; they shall be a portion for jackals.

READ Isaiah 35:8-10

⁸ And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (Isa. 35:1-10 ESV)

Word of our access brings joy. (8-10)

Isaiah 43:1 But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. (Isa. 43:1 ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mk. 10:45 ESV)

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