

HALLELUJAH, THERE IS HOPE!

Isaiah 5, 7, 9, 11



August 23, 2026
Message by Pastor Ron Milne

Heartbreak and Hope



Judgment and grace are never far apart—and grace is always greater.

From Judgment to Restoration



1. The Vineyard —
Rejected Love



2. The Sign —
Refused



3. The Child —
Received



4. The Kingdom —
Restored

Rejected Love

“Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.” (Isaiah 5:1–2)

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1. Fertile ground
 2. Cleared stones
 3. Choice vines
 4. A watchtower
 5. A prepared winepress

God's love was not withheld. It was rejected.

Every Advantage Given

“What more was there to do for My vineyard, that I have not done in it?” (Isaiah 5:4)

What God Expected	What the Vineyard Produced
Justice (Mishpat)	Bloodshed (Mispach)
Righteousness (Tsedaqah)	Cries of Distress (Tse'aqah)

The Theranos Tragedy

Every resource provided; only wild grapes produced.



Personal Response

John 15:5, 8

Time Abilities
Opportunities
Gospel Truth

**Given everything God has entrusted
to me, what am I producing?**



Fear Without Faith

Isaiah 7:10–12

What Ahaz Said

I will not ask, and I will
not put the LORD to
the test.

What Ahaz Meant

Concealed unbelief.
Refusing God's sign to
secretly trust a political
alliance with Assyria
instead.

Disobedience can sometimes wear the language of reverence.

Stand Firm in Faith

“If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all.”
(Isaiah 7:9)

Standing in Faith	Standing in Fear
• Trusting God. • Standing still. • Finding peace.	• Trusting human solutions. • Driven toward destructive alliances. • Refusing the offered rescue.

Where is fear tempting me to trust something other than God?

The Kodak Warning

1975: Kodak engineer Steve Sasson invents the digital camera.

Executives refuse the disruptive technology, preferring their current alliances.

In 2012, Kodak goes bankrupt, destroyed by the very thing they ignored.

Immanuel—God With Us

~~The Sign Refused~~

The Sign Given Anyway

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)

Martin Luther offered a fortune in gold to anyone who could find a counterexample for “virgin” in the Old Testament. No one collected.

*“Immanuel answers our deepest fear:
we are not facing life alone.”*
— David Jeremiah

Hope Shines in the Darkness

**“The people who
walked in darkness have
seen a great light.”
(Isaiah 9:1–2)**

- The darkness was real, and the people could not rescue themselves.
- God caused the light to shine.
- Fulfilled when Jesus began His ministry in Galilee.

Like Pastor George Chen singing hymns for 18 years in a dark Chinese prison—light does not wait for the darkness to lift before it starts to shine.

A Child Received, A Government Restored

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given...” (Isaiah 9:6)

~~Confusion~~ → **Wonderful
Counselor**

~~Weakness~~ → **Mighty
God**

~~Orphaned~~ → **Everlasting
Father**

~~Conflict~~ → **Prince of
Peace**

"Wonderful" is not merely Christ's description but his signature." — Charles Spurgeon

A Branch Restored from a Dead Stump

“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.” (Isaiah 11:1)



- Not a standing tree, but a severed root.
- No throne, no army—a carpenter's family in an occupied province.
- The Messiah comes from what looked entirely cut down.

Cinematic Chiaroscuro of Creation

Life From the Ruins

“The wolf shall dwell with the lamb...” (Isaiah 11:6)

“Creation will be ‘set free from its bondage to corruption.’ (Romans 8:21)

Never write off a ministry or a life as dead. The God of Jesse’s stump specializes in bringing life from what looks finished.



The Survivor Tree

Reduced to a blackened trunk beneath the wreckage of September 11, a single green branch sprouted. Nursed back to health, it stands today as a memorial of life outlasting death.

Hallelujah, There Is Hope!

- A vineyard rejecting love.
- A sign refused, yet given anyway.
- A child received as light in the dark.
- A kingdom restored from a ruined stump.

**Judgment and grace are
never far apart, and God's
grace is always greater.**

There is hope because there is Jesus—Immanuel, God with us!