



SERMON NOTES

GOING DEEPER

December 21-22, 2013

Isaiah 12:3 (NIV)

³ *With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

The deepest holes in the world can't begin to compare to the depth of joy we experience, when we dig deep into God's radical grace.

The prophet Isaiah here in chapter 12, knows a lot about digging deep and about the reward that awaits. Those who are willing to keep going down until they find life's most precious resource WATER!

Isaiah writes to a people who dwell in the desert, but it's as much a spiritual desert as it is a geographical one. Isaiah's people, the people of Judah, were destined for exile after years of turning their backs on God.

But God isn't finished with them yet! He still has a plan!!

So, what do we discover when we dig deep into God's salvation? The center, the core of our salvation is Grace and grace is JESUS!

GRACE TO YOU: My Story (12:1, 2)

Isaiah 12:1-2 (NIV)

¹ *In that day you will say: "I will praise you, O LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me. ² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation."*

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Grace is God's deep well of love, mercy, kindness and forgiveness. You will run out of sin before God will run out of grace. Yet grace isn't a license to do whatever we want.

GOD SHOULD HATE US FOR ALL WE HAVE DONE. THE QUESTION ISN'T DO WE LOVE GOD BUT WHY DOES GOD LOVE US? THE GREATEST JOY ASSOCIATED WITH OUR SALVATION IS THE FACT THAT GOD WAS (PAST TENSE) OUR FORMER ENEMY NOW WE ARE HIS CHILDREN.

GOD'S FULL ANGER AND WRATH FELL ON OUR SUBSTITUTE JESUS. THAT'S WHY WE SING FOR JOY!

References to God's Anger in the New Testament:

Romans 2:5

⁵But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

Romans 2:8

⁸But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

Ephesians 5:6 (NLT)

⁶ Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

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GRACE IN YOU: My Joy (12:3)

Isaiah 12:3 (NIV)

³ *With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

“My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water” (Psalm 63:1).

GRACE THROUGH YOU: My Mission (12:4-6)

Isaiah 12:4-6 (NIV)

⁴ *In that day you will say: “Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵ Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”*

God has never been content to stand off at a distance. From the beginning He walked with Adam and Eve, God wanted to dwell among his people (*Exodus 25:8*). He dwelt among us in Jesus (*John 1:14*). He comes to us through the Holy Spirit (*John 14:21, 23*). And in the coming kingdom, God’s presence will be great among us, uniting the world in holy joy (*Zechariah 2:10, 11*).