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Spotlighting God's-church

Isaiah 60

INTRODUCTION:

The church appears to have been in existence either in symbol or in part a long time before New Testament times.

I do not mean the church as you know it today. But in shadow or type -- we find the idea of the church in formation.

Isaiah 60 offers a picture of a redeemed company. The Gentiles are flocking to Zion. They place their wealth in Zion. God's people are coming by land and sea, this is seen in the sailing ships and the flock of doves speeding homeward. Zion becomes great, foreigners build her wall, the gates are left open without fear, Zion is now the Spiritual Center.

Historically, Zion was the city of David - this chapter refers literally to the glories of the restored Jerusalem.

Keep in mind - Zion Spiritually, Symbolically refers to the redeemed church - the called out believers. The Kingdom - The New Jerusalem. Therefore, I want to apply this passage to the church - putting God's church in the spotlight. Some have described this chapter as a hymn.

OUTLINE:

- I. Splendor of the Church. V. 1-2.
- II. Spanning Nations. V. 3-8.
- III. Support With Abundance. V. 9-12.
- IV. Salvation With Beauty. V. 13-18.
- V. Security Forever. V. 19-22.

Parma N.Y. - 1830 Bapt. Preacher Stinson - congregation accustomed sleeping through sermons 2 hrs. He had Choir Master Break in "Awake, My Soul" Booming Voice 10 mins some outside thinking services over (Churches Congregation) announced 2 1/2 hrs "Sleep on now, and take your Rest" - 20 yrs later people still talked caused them resolve have sleep sermon 17th century Hobson Thomas Hobson at Cambridge rented horses - he had a rule - any person who rented horse had take the one standing nearest stable door no matter who you were, argue - Hobson's choice which no witness at all - told that witnessing told that

I. Splendor of the Church. V. 1-2.

V. 1 - Arise - Zion had been in the dust. Duty when light comes arise and be enlightened by it.

Shine - Impart to others - The Spiritual light. Children of light ought to shine. Witness of the church.

Young wife told pastor in her younger days she had felt that God wanted her for a life of special service but did not for fear of what others would say. Did she make a mistake by

becoming a house wife? Her excuse was shabby -

The glory of the Lord - not just the cloud of fire that rested above them in wilderness but the glory of the Lord in person.

Zion is not to shine with her own light. This made the church a power -

His glory upon it. Christ still conveys his gifts to his church. Thy light is come

(Sis. Teacher) Kints - Pupils give way to social pressure, even have Birthday Party on Sun. Am. was fulfilled in Christ. One Preacher told his people to quit every Sunday Night & once a month resign from the Ministry, People Break My Heart, Not let light shine & Shine with the light that has come into your soul. The light of God indwelling

his people.

V. 2 - Splendor of the light, contrast to world.

Darkness cover the earth - like that in Egypt that might be felt.

Light in Goshen! Exo. 10:22. *Thick Darkness -*

Darkness in the world, but light in the church. Christian stands in contrast to darkness about him. I Cor. 1:21. Darkness covers those without the Gospel.

Rom. 1:18.

Are you in darkness? Has the light risen upon your soul? Are you reflecting the light in your life? Every Christian is called upon to arise - and shine. Eph. 5:4.

If your soul is in darkness you need not despair - light is here.

His glory shall be seen upon you - if you are a true member of the church the

Charles Spurgeon's conversion applicable here. As a young man greatly distressed over his relationship to God, he found he had sinned - in deep darkness. One Sunday A.M. Primitive Methodist chapel - severe snow storm - regular preacher not come - illiterate shoe maker preached - text: "look unto me and be ye saved, All the ends of the earth" - Exhorted few heard look to Christ. Spurgeon sitting under balcony - "young man, you look miserable - you will always be miserable if not obey this text - obey now. This moment, & be saved."

II. Spanning Nations - V. 3-8.

V. 3 - Tells why the Gentiles and multitudes come to the church. *This moment, & be saved.*

Steel is drawn by a magnet.

"young man look to Jesus Christ" Testified Darkness rolled away."

Governments of the earth wait upon Zion. Great ingathering of Gentile nations - attracted by the light - partake of it.

Even their Kings.

By the light the church gives out men will be drawn. Heavenly minded, pure with love, will attract men from this dark world.

"One Beggar telling another Beggar where to find Bread"

Your example - must be right.

V. 4 - Gentiles come - dispersed Hebrews come. Lift up eyes - look - They are coming to Thee. They will nurse, like a mother holding a baby.

10th Acts - Peter Vision - Cornelius - Heaven opened - Vessel danded - Street 4 corners
Beast - Soul - Rise Eat - common or Indian - What God hath cleansed is not common -
Unlawful for Jew to keep company - C vision to call Simon - Peter, God no respecter of

Those that are saved - Kings - Sons and Daughters - Men and Women - Come
from all parts. Preached unto him Jesus - How he hung on a tree
& Holy Ghost fell upon all who heard & command
them to be Baptised,

V. 5 - Your heart will beat with excitement - Gentiles converted unto Thee and they
bring the prosperity of commerce (abundance of the sea) - wealth beyond the sea as
in Solomon's day.

Forces of the earth flow into Zion - riches of the Gentiles - Details in V. 6-9.

Merchants use their wealth in expanding the church.

Mighty men offer their service to the church.

Zion is to look up - evidence men are going to become interested in the church.

V. 6 The Praise of the Lord - How?

SAM Erwin Favorite Story John Courtney Mary Mt
Mary if weren't what are what like it? Anne Best Rose
John " Octopus 1000 arms
Pit around Mars Phaw joke, May said you and using arms
already got!

Staggering amounts of riches would flow into Jerusalem. Remember Queen of

Sheba brought gold in abundance.

Camels - continued stream of caravans - made of merchants from:

Midian - Ephah - Sheba.

Gold and Incense for the altar of God. The wise men of the East drawn by
the brightness of the star came to Christ with treasures of Gold, Frankincense and
Myrrh.

This says that the Kingdom will derive help from the ends of the earth.

They will come in great numbers.

They will bring offerings to the feet of Jesus. Each country - possessions -
contribute to the celebration of His praise.

American Christians have reason to thank God for wealth - millions of autos,
T. V.'s, pleasure boats. \$774 million on musical instruments, New Yorkers alone spend
\$50 million a year going to the theater, we spend \$30 million on vacations, one and
a half billion to keep our lawns - more than Canada spends on her armed forces!

Dr. John Tyndall - British Physicist - said greatest influence on his life was an
old servant who for years faithfully would knock on his bedroom door and call:
"It is seven o'clock, Sir, get up! You
have great work to do today!"
Church members - get up - great work -

V. 7 - I will glorify the house of God.

Flocks - Kedar.

Rams - Nebaioth.

Altar - Mine.

A temple - an altar - plenty of offerings. Will animal sacrifices be renewed? No, abolished, now the self-sacrifice of the servant to Jehovah.

Have the memorial of his supper.

He accepts the sacrifices and offerings brought.

Rom. 15:16. I Peter 2:9.

*Recall 5 students group, Budget -
Banner - 13 SW - one college fellow
for - mt. boy - one
and - Aunt Ed - one
cant spell Bus 11*

V. 8 - Who are these?

These converts come to the church flying like a cloud - wings of wind - sails of ship.

Fly as doves by instinct to the window of their home.

Movement toward the church - eagerness, like clouds driven by the wind - like doves hasten with speed toward home.

Great number - unity.

III. Supported with Abundance - V. 9-12.

Promises provision for the church.

V. 9 - Ships of Tarshish - Silver and Gold. They have waited for the redeemer, will come with their sons, their silver, gold because of his Holy Name.

They come from afar bringing their tithes and offerings - themselves - their money to the church.

*Marvel Buck little top playing marble
one Elder Brought to trial - Pastor wrote charge
Against Bible - Script - Sam Marvel not
Pastor - " Says not marble not
Marvel Not -*

V. 10 - Revival - Reconstruction of the walls.

Cyrus aided in supply of timber.

Strangers aided in walls.

Kings come - multitudes and help in construction of the church - advance interest of God's church.

V. 11 - Gates open - All who come to the church will be welcome!

There is still room!

Free - access all times - expecting you. *Man or woman who has sinned,*

Come help build, use your labor, become a servant. *Jesus said Gates of Hell
not prevail - NOT close the " of the church*

Soul can be brought to Jesus day or night.

V. 12 - Curse placed upon churchless nation.

Perish. Decay from lack of divine favour. The Kingdom of God is essential in the nation. *Community will decay morally + loose compassion in human needs,*
Christians are called upon to support the church.
Penalties for neglecting the church.

IV. Salvation with Beauty. V. 13-18.

V. 13 - Glory of Lebanon - Even timbers in the church shall be beautiful. Natural

beauty. 2 Chro. 2:16. *logs floated down by water to Joppa -*
John Bunyan - Palace Beautiful, little, dingy
Bapt. church - yet Beautiful -

Fir tree

Pine

Cypress (Box) used to beautify sanctuary.

The carved work.

Place of my feet - God's footstool - his presence. His mercy seat - His resting place - His Throne.

V. 14 - Opressors swept away - but their children come to the city of Zion.

Rev. 3:9. Brotherly love instead of members of synagogue of Satan.

Proud oppressors of the church, despised the church, come in dependence,

humility. *Dr. J.C. Turner - tells Revolutionary war. Gen. Geo. Washington came to The Brandy wine + crossed The Bridge - "What shall we do with The Bridge, leave it or Burn it -"*
Gen. 37:7. Retreat - No, Burn it - it is victory or death -
Christians are marching to victory - conquer all enemies of flesh.
Will come and honour and join - great salvation.

V. 15 - Transformed

As a wife forsaken and hated - contemptible.

Desolate - despised - Jerusalem forsaken, abandoned. Becomes the joy of good people.

Eternal excellency - everlasting glory.

V. 16 - Figure of taking milk.

Nations shall bring their riches to that city.

Valuable riches of Gentiles brought in.

Isaiah used such words - Saviour - Redeemer - Mighty one of Jacob. Here is the Saviour.

Favour of neighbors - nations - kings and God.

V. 17 - Exchange Worthless for a thing of value - salvation. All things in the church make a change for the better.

Even rulers become righteous - judges - law officers. Raised from the dust - instead of brass put gold in your treasury. 2 Cor. 3:10.

Idea of glorious age - ^{- Gold vessels -} I Kings 10:21, 27. Material splendour - Spiritual

time of excellences. Adorning a spiritual "Zion or church" - Rom. 11:25.

Dr. John Sigoo spoke of "Gospel of irresponsibility" - Modern man wants that which he has not earned & to reap what he has not sowed.

V. 18 - Perfect Kingdom

Violence no more - insulted, plundered but no more within thy borders.

"When swords shall be beaten into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks.

Walls of salvation.

Gates of praise.

Safe to serve with Thanksgiving.

V. Security Forever - V. 19-22.

V. 19 - Charge to look forward to glory and happiness of Heaven. Type or figure of the church on earth.

Blessings of the church.

God is going to be in all.

Rev. 21: 23 - 25

John had read prophecy of Isaiah,

Sun and moon - no more be the light. Idolized by the Lord shall be constant light.

Rev. 22:5

Zion will shine - lamb be light - majestic - new Heaven and new earth.

V. 20 - Everlasting light - Time of suffering over. James 1:17.

New Heaven and earth - Rev. 21:2.

Their mourning ended - sorrow gone. All tears - no death.

Isaac Watts - Childhood - Visiting home by very old lady, ask him read Plague on Wall - "How God seest me" - When you are older people tell you God is always watching you to see when you do wrong so he can punish you. - "I want you take the text home + remember all your life God loves you so much that he can not take his eyes off you."

Rev. 7:9.

Absolute righteousness.

On this earth light of moon fades.

Light of the sun closed by night - goes down. Rev. 22

Happiness here promised shall know no change.

Dec 16/13 ↑

V. 21 - People of God's new Kingdom shall be all righteous - root of the matter.

Fruit of sin brings sorrow.

They shall inherit the land - entitled - never be put out of possession.

Matt. 5:5. Blessed are the meek - shall inherit the earth.

Branch of my planting - work of my hands.

For the Glory of the Messiah.

V. 22 - Christian growth.

Little one becomes a thousand.

Small one becomes a nation.

The Christian church may begin with the first one, than 120, than 5,000, and still the church multiplies.

It seems difficult to bring the growth of the church about. Here is hope.

Luke 2:52.

God will bring it to pass in due time. Brightness of his Kingdom is on the

way.

Home life - March 1961 - story - Formosa - Tribe savage headhunter 200 yrs ago

Believed pleased their goal to offer head of man each year -

Hoko - Chief - brought 40 heads - wise heart suggest dedicate only one & save others for later years - Hoped that in 40 yrs they would give up barbaric practice.

40 yrs passed - persuaded them to go 4 more yrs & insisted reverse their practice. Demanded to hunt a head - self determined - take person I choose - agreed - told them wait behind temple at noon -

man dressed in red would pass - he was victim - Savage lifted the head - shocked 12 arrows pierced his body -

beloved face of chief Hoko - Bitter repentance - Vowed never hunt again - A Substitute

Amazing love - Christ died for the church - security - Everlasting light -