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STRONG GLADIATOR

Isaiah 62

INTRODUCTION:

We now have a new President in the United States! The whole world looks on to see if the new one will face the situations of nations with wisdom.

The Inauguration took place as Nixon held his hand upon the Bible passage which speaks of nations beating their swords into plowshares. Isaiah 2:4.

Customary for President elect to choose a passage -

- ✓ George Washington - Gen. 49:14-16 - "Isaiah - <sup>Beast of Burden</sup> - Become a servant
- ✓ Abraham Lincoln - Rev. 16:7. <sup>I had heard another but of the Altar say even so, Lord God Almighty</sup>  
True & Righteous Are Thy Judgments -
- ✓ Rutherford B. Hayes - Ps. 118:11-13. - Compassion by Enemy like Bees & Lord helped me
- ✓ Woodrow Wilson - Ps. 119:43-46. I will seek thy precepts - I will speak thy testimonies  
Before Kings And Not be Ashamed.

Isa. 62:1-3 - Good Text - Change a word or so.

For America's sake I will not hold my peace,

For Washington's sake I will not rest.

Righteousness should be maintained.

What an ideal!

(Washington) - inadequately governed - what city has more slums? What city drinks more liquor? Has more vicious night life?

The monument, Lincoln Memorial, Supreme Court Building, White House - Streets unsafe for men or women to walk without protection.

Not rest until righteousness goes forth as brightness.

V. 2 - Will deal with foreign affairs - Gentiles, shall see thy righteousness.

(Thomas Jefferson) wrote Declaration of Independence. Not write to protest to King George III. Not write a plea for Justice.

He wrote out a proclamation - a declaration - proclaiming to the whole world. Righteousness and Justice of the Revolution - Stroke of genius.

All Presidents desire to go down in history as great men - the years will determine the greatness or lack of it.

It is righteousness which determines whether <sup>the</sup> nation~~s~~ is exalted.

The New President is in the arena - we pray he may be a strong gladiator.

Talk about another strong gladiator, known as a servant, He is a heavenly worker and he will be victorious. He will fight public fears, combat Satan. We go now to the arena.

OUTLINE:

- I. Specific Roll - V. 1-5.
- II. Super Objective - V. 6-10.
- III. Spectators - V. 11-12.

I. Specific Roll - V. 1-5.

V. 1 - What he will do for Zion - for the church - his people.

Preacher | not hold his peace. *[Today, Countries, Where you can not witness or give tracts - ON street - Moslem, out door - some chris -*  
| Not rest - never.

He will continue to preach - faithful - deliver - repeat the message of Salvation - speak from God to the people.

Acts 6:4. "We will give ourselves continually to prayer + to the Ministry of the Word."

Why will he do this? For Zion - Jerusalem - Church. Not for his pleasure.

It is on his heart for God's glory.

Until righteousness go forth as the dawn and the lamp burneth - torch blazeth. Rising Sun.

I. - The Prophet - representative of praying people of God who love Zion and interceed.

Combined - Messiah represented as not resting until needs of people met.

Zion is close to his heart and he wanted to see good come to Jerusalem.

Isaiah would not live long enough to see Israel released from Babylon and captivity.

Unceasingly occupied in the one great work of establishing Zion as the center of light.

Lessons - our voices should be heard - faithful in the activities of the church. Do we work hard at the work of God!

His salvation shines forth as a night-torch that's blazing! Specific roll.

V. 2 - Gentiles shall see - what?

Admire Israel's righteousness.

Admire Israel's purity - excellence.

Church - "See how these Christians love one another". One Historian said this was the cause of the success of Christianity - "The virtues, purity, righteousness, of the early Christians".

Kings - All - Clear - See Thy Glory. Witness - Honor - Respect.

New Name - Rev. 2:17; 3:12

Changed their way. Repented. New People - New condition. Expressive of new character. 2 Cor. 5:17. "If ANY MAN BE IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATURE."

Saints - Christians - Believers - New Birth.

The Lord will determine this.

V. 3 - Figurative Language - Hand of God

Crown to worn on the head - in the hand means in the protection of the Lord.

Deut. 33:3 - *Sinai* - Lord loved his people - all saints are in his hand -

Saints are in thy hand.

God will exhibit Israel in his hand to the world - Kings will see.

Diadem in his hand, added glory. Mal. 3:17. *Those that fear the Lord, write Names in Books,*

Jer. 13:11. *When Lord makes up his jewels he will not spare them but he*  
*Be not to me for a Rope, Name, Praise, a glory,*

The church is dear to our Lord - precious!

V. 4 - Figurative Language - Marriage

Divorced - Term Forsaken - Enemies powerful. Land termed desolate.

Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar had left Judah desolate in time of captivity.

Spoken of as desolation.

Jer. 34:22 *Make Cities of Judah Desolate -*

Ez. 33:29 *Whole land Desolate - Because of all their abominations*

Forsaken - 2 K. 21:1. Like a woman.

To be altered - changed to Garden of Eden from waste, desolate, forsaken, ruined city.

Hephzi-bah 7 "My delight is in her".

Name of Hezekiah's queen - 2 K. 21:1. *Manasseh - 12 yrs old. began rule Jer - Mother*  
*Named Heph'-zi-bah*

Prov. 5:19.

Refined - reformed - take delight in.

As the church.

Beulah 7 "Married".

Rev. 21:2,4. *Saw the Holy City, New Jer., coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as Bride -*

Jehovah as Lord and husband - protector - owner.

Thy land will be fruitful again - her sons will again be wed to their native land with great delight - no prefer other lands.

Hephzibah - my delight, my darling.

Beulah - my wife, married.

Hymn.

"O Beulah Land, sweet Beulah Land,

As on Thy highest mount I stand,

I look away across the sea,

Where mansions are prepared for me,

And view the shining glory shore,

My heaven, my home forevermore!"

V. 5 - Moving - young man's affections forces him to love his virgin, the affection of their children forces them to love their parents. Tender affection of bridal love. Bridegroom joys over the bride. Thy God shall joy over thee!

He takes pleasure in his church - to do the church good.

Bridegroom rejoices over the bride so God rejoices over Judah back in the land.

II. Super Objective - V. 6-10.

V. 6 - Watchman - "The Servant" has appointed watches upon the walls of Zion.

These were prophets perhaps with the larger reference placed upon the Messiah.

Who keep perpetual watch.

Neither day or night do they hold their peace or keep silence, but intercede with God for his people.

Zech. 1:12.

Look for approach of Messengers - Tidings.

Return from exile, a pre-figure here. Some think these watchmen were angels.

Oversee the beloved city.

True Minister very seldom rests - be on duty for good in the church. They can not hold their peace but use opportunities to warn sinners.

Not silent trying to get people to do their duty.

Be ceaseless in your intercession day and night. Appeal for favour of God upon his people.

No rest - pray night and day - pray for the lost, if you pray 50 years.

Why limit your prayer to once?

2 Pet. 3:9. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance".

I John 5:14 "If we ask anything according to His will He heareth us."

V. 7 - Keep not silent yourselves - intercessory prayer without ceasing for Jerusalem.

Luke 18:1-7. *Widow Request a Judge - Troubleth + God's Elect Come to him day & night -*

Rom. 1:9. *Without ceasing Paul - intercessory prayer.*

Luke 11:5-8. *Friend - late at night - food, feed visitors. Rise give opportunity.*

Compare our Lord's teaching.

God's people must be praying people. Keep not silent or grow weary of it.

Jacob to angel "I will not let thee go - bless us". Gen. 32:26.

God is displeased when we fail to pray - not trouble him. Matt. 15:23.

Luke 11:5.

Prayer would establish the church and may praise the Lord.

Prayer will pour out the mercy of God upon the church.

V. 8 Promise Relief of the people and restore them in their land and give them joy and peace.

By his right hand - (emblem of his power to act.)

Thy corn, grain, wine, no longer be carried off by hostile enemies. Rob you of the fruits of your labour. *William Wermath tells of 7 yr. old Robert - Critically ill - No hope - several months - I want to join church - why? "Because of love Jesus" - "Why do you love Jesus?" "He made me well" - "What is the greatest thing Jesus has done for you?" "Died on cross"*

Losses through punishment.

Lev. 26:16. Because you sorrow of heart - ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.  
Deut. 28:33. SHALL EAT IT.

*(His love calls out our love) God commendeth his love to us while we were sinners - Proof on cross - Power to act in our behalf - Promise justified*

V. 9 - You will harvest, you will eat, and you will praise the Lord for fulfilling his promise.

Heb. 6:17-18. Impossible for God to lie - Sure hope -

Rom. 4:21. Persuaded - What He has Promised, He was Able, Also to perform.

V. 10 - Without rest he seeks.

Without rest He prays, promises, until it is fulfilled and they come through the gates.

Way of redemption is made.

Causeways are built up.

Go through - period of return from Exile Pass forth from Babylon. Clear all obstacles, bring material and construct a highway. Path of triumph.

Eastern public roads were poorly tended in Isaiah's time.

Royal visit from King - Deep-rutted worn road repaired - Large crews fill up the holes - drain the water holes and level up the road - Logs.

Go through the gates.

Prepare way of the people - they were to come through country side to Zion.

President Woodrow Wilson, at his inauguration saw an empty space in front of the capitol, and pointing to the men and women held back by the police, he said, "Let the people come forward".

This became the theme of his administration and he became beloved as a leader who wanted only peace and freedom for his people.

Messiah calls "Let the people come forward".

— Cast up the highway.

Washed out by violent rains - worn by the travel and wind and neglect.

Make smooth for the royal travelers.

Gather out the stones

Stumbling blocks

Sin.

Lift up a standard.

King is coming, lift it high.

Livingstone "I place no value on anything I possess or have except my relation to Kingdom of Christ.

John the Baptist - Matt. 3:3 - way is prepared - Christ is coming.

Super objective.

III. Spectators - V. 11-12.

As the strong gladiator goes forth he influences the spectators.

V. 11 - Salvation approaches - He brings his reward with him.

He redeems as no one else can.

Zion is to be saved - Messiah is on his way and arrives.

V. 12 - Regeneration.

*Prophet sounds like Paul speaking of God's people.*

The name given them

The Holy People

*Thomas A Kempis wrote "The Imitation of Christ" Christians called to the imitation of him whom we are &*

Church - I Cor. 1:2 called saints. whom we serve

*(Acts 27:23 - Paul expressed anger of God stood by in storm)*

*child copies another - clothes - hair cuts -*

carbon copies of Christ - (Eph. 5:1) Be imitators of God as beloved children  
Mimesograph - Duplicate - imitators of God - walk in love - Be Holy

Egyptians King let them go to build house of God in Jer -  
Persians in some degree recognized this character in God's people. Ezra. 1:2-3

7:12.

Alexander recognized this the historian Josephus said. Romans on the contrary despised and thought of them as superstitions.

Redeemed of the Lord.

These are the Holy people - must be redeemed. Can't be holy without this.  
Strong Gladiator. Cross. Redeemed how I love to proclaim it -

Call out

God calls - No man does this, God does this. If your heart is moved, it is of God.  
Story Rich young ruler - Heart was moved - Not join the Redeemed - loved  
Man among tombs - yes I will follow, Shepherds & wise men  
born way of life

Sought out

God's Spirit does this - seek and finds men. Parable: Woman lost the coin, she searched - sought - until found.

Never forsaken

Object of God's Care.

A son had been drafted into military service. It was his last night at home. His mother & father waited up for him to come in from the last date with his girl. Finally they heard him come in & go into the kitchen. The father said "Mother, I think I'll go downstairs & have a man to man talk with the boy, to give him some advice & counsel before he goes off to the army" - downstairs, he opened the kitchen door expecting to find the son raiding the refrigerator. Instead, he found him on his knees, praying.

The father listened a moment, then quickly closed the door & went back upstairs. The mother asked "Did you talk to him?" No - he said, I don't need to talk to him. Mother, our mission is fulfilled as parents.

We have finished the job we started eighteen years ago when God sent the boy to us as a baby. It is all right for him to go to war now, for I have just seen him on his knees, praying to God. He is relating his life to God completely. And we have finished the task God gave us as a mother & father.

This is the task God has given every parent.  
God help you see the task God has given every parent.

Only as we have Jesus - are we prepared for what life sends us to