

Series: Isaiah Series

Title: Because of the LORD that is Faithful

Text: Isaiah 49: 7-12

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Place: SGBC, New Jersey

The salvation of every believer is sure. Our assurance is found in two phrases in our text today. One is in verse 7, **“because of the LORD that is faithful.”** The other in verse 8: God says I will **“give thee [Christ] for a covenant of the people.”**

The assurance of the child of God is the infinitely unalterable faithfulness of our triune God in Christ.

Before God made anything that is made, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit entered into a covenant of grace and peace to save an elect multitude in a way which glorifies the triune God.

That Way is Christ. The Son of God agreed to become Jehovah’s Incarnate Servant, as a Man to live as the Representative and die as the Substitute of the elect children given to Christ.

The promises the three persons in the Godhead made to Christ as our covenant Surety are the promises God has and continues to fulfill to his people. These promises are the focus of our text.

Proposition: In this message I want you to see the faithfulness of our covenant triune God to save his elect by beholding God fulfilling all his covenant promises to Christ. We see 5 promises in our text.

I. GOD PROMISED TO EXALT CHRIST ABOVE ALL

Remember: the Lord Jesus Christ is God the Son, the self-sufficient Creator and Upholder of all things. Christ as God the Son needed nothing, he is God. But he became God’s servant. Christ came to glorify the LORD Jehovah, obeying God as he finished working all that is required of his people to make the elect of God the righteousness of God in him. As he did the three persons of the Godhead faithfully upheld Christ in his manhood.

Isaiah 49: 7: Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee.

All three persons in the Godhead fulfill these promises to Christ. God the Father—**Thus saith the LORD;** God the Son—**the Redeemer of Israel;** God the Holy Spirit—**and his Holy One.**

Christ is the one spoken to—**to him whom man despiseth.** Men despise Christ because God chose Christ and Christ alone must work the works of saving his people because no sinner can save himself.

To him whom the nation abhorreth—there are only two nations in God’s sight. God’s “holy nation” of God’s elect and the nation of ungodly rebels. The nation of Israel and the nation of Rome were one nation, crying, “Crucify him, Crucify him!”

To a servant of rulers—the King of Kings became “a servant to rulers”. He obeyed the law under Jewish rulers; he paid taxes to Caesar, a Gentile Ruler; he submitted to be scourged by the order of Pilot. All of this our Savior voluntarily submitted to. He was abased that he might exalt us.

2 Co 8:9: For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

As he did all this, Christ trusted God to exalt him as God promised and God did as he promised—**Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship,...**

1Co 1:26: For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*:

It says not many but it doesn't say "not any". God the Spirit is able to humble the proudest rebel and make Christ the Power and Wisdom of God to whom he will.

The LORD God fulfilled his promise to glorify his faithfulness--**because of the LORD that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel.** God is faithful. Our hope of eternal life depends upon the faithfulness of God who cannot lie!

1 Thessalonians 5:24: Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

The Lord God promised to make it evident that he had chosen Christ to be the Savior and Redeemer of his people—**and he shall choose thee.** He has made it evident.

Philippians 2: 9: Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; 11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Listen to Paul teach us then what to do with this good news.

Philippians 2: 12: Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure. 14: Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15; That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; 16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Illust. The call looking to stir up one of my brethren

Application: When men try to stir you up against government, pointing out corruption and injustice of proud rulers and rich men—pay it no attention. Christ trusted the promise of the Father, now you, believer, trust Christ the King of kings.

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Do you see our God's faithfulness to Christ in this first promise. Then know he will be faithful to us he has called. He raised Christ our King. He rules. He will exalt us in his time.

1 Peter 5: 5:...be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. 6: Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: 7: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

II. THE LORD GOD PROMISED TO HEAR CHRIST AND DID

Isaiah 49: 8 Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I heard thee,...

In an acceptable time means in the time pleasing, acceptable to God. Christ trusted the Father in perfect obedience, prayed for the Father's will to be done in his time as he walked this earth. In garden of Gethsemane

Matthew 26: 39: O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *wilt*.

Christ was heard because he revered the faithful LORD GOD.

Hebrews 5: 7: Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

“In that he feared” means His prayer was in faith—it was two-fold: for God to glorify his name

John 12: 27: Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. 28 Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.

And for his people

John 17: 24: Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

Application: He was heard as God promised and he is heard now. Believer, we have access to Christ's throne of grace. Our security in this world, and in the world to come, is by Christ's intercession for us!

Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them...9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

III. THE LORD GOD PROMISED TO HELP CHRIST AND DID.

Isaiah 49: 8...and in a day of salvation have I helped thee:

Remember, God the Son needed no help. But as a Man, he was sustained in all his work by God as promised. We see it plainest at the cross. The Faithful One trusted God, saying,

Psalm 16: 10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Isaiah 50: 6: I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. 7; For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed. 8 *He is* near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who *is* mine adversary? let

him come near to me. 9 Behold, the Lord GOD will help me; who *is* he *that* shall condemn me? lo, they all shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up.

At the accepted time, when Christ satisfied justice as Substitute of his people, God helped him. It was **the day of salvation**, when the triune God raised Jesus of Nazareth from the grave and raised all his ransomed church in him, perfected forever.

App: He says to those he regenerated by the Spirit:

Isaiah 50:10: Who *is* among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh *in* darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Psalm 2: 4: I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah. 5 I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.

Paul said, today is the day of salvation, don't hear this word of grace in vain, believe on Christ now.

2 Corinthians 5: 20: Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 6: 1: We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. 2: (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

Seeing the faith of God in Christ, seeing the righteousness of God manifest, believe on him, be ye reconciled to God.

IV. THE LORD GOD PROMISED TO PRESERVE CHRIST, HE DID AND DOES.

Isaiah 49: 8...and I will preserve thee,...

God preserved Christ from his enemies from womb to the tomb, from death by his resurrection, and now upon his throne

Hebrews 10: 12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; 13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

Application: Brethren, Christ's redeemed make up his body. Each shall be preserved in Christ and for Christ's sake. Through our days of rebellion till God calls them to faith in Christ, after our calling all our lives, through death and judgment. Our assurance all of these promises fulfilled by God in Christ. But even more—Christ himself!

V. THE LORD GOD PROMISED TO GIVE CHRIST FOR A COVENANT

Isaiah 49: 8...and give thee for a covenant of the people,...

Christ is the covenant not of all people, but of THE people. Those chosen unto salvation and redeemed by his blood. Christ is the Covenant given to each one born of the Spirit of God. Christ our Covenant is the Yea and Amen of all these sure and certain promises. Christ himself is the Covenant, the Law written on the

new heart is Christ the Covenant formed in you. When the Lord God gives you his Son, he gives you everything with his Son (Eph. 1:3; Rom. 8: 32).

Christ is our Covenant King guarantees his people our inheritance in righteousness—**V8: to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages.** We were desolated by our sin. Christ establishes his people in righteousness, assuring us we shall inherit all spiritual blessings, by whom we have an inheritance reserved in heaven for us.

Christ is our Covenant of Redemption who frees us from the prison of sin and death--**V9: That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves.** Who is the only one who can make a sinner come to Christ in faith? John 3:20: For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. The only one who can is Christ our Covenant Liberator--**That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves.** Then...John 3: 21: But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Christ is our Covenant Shepherd guaranteeing us his full provision through this life--**V9:...They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. 10: They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them. 11: And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted.**

Christ is the Covenant Savior guaranteeing none of God's elect shall be lost.--**v12: Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim.** [of thorns]

THE ONE THING I WANT EACH BELIEVER HERE TO SEE IS:

Because of the LORD that is faithful, because he has given us Christ our Covenant—our present and future glorification in and with Christ is as certain and eternal as the oath of our triune God to Christ and as certain as the Christ's accomplishment of his promises for us.

He exalted Christ and us with him

He hears Christ and us by Christ

He preserved Christ and us in Christ

He helped Christ and does all for us by Christ

He gave Christ for our Covenant and in Christ all the promises of God are yes and amen to the praise of the glory of his grace.

Isaiah 49: 13: Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the LORD hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

Amen!