

Series: Isaiah  
Title: Feet of Them  
Text: Isaiah 52: 7-8  
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**Isaiah 52: 7: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! 8: Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion.**

In those days, a messenger carried news from one city to another. A watchman stood on top of the walls of the city or in elevated towers watching for the messenger. When the watchman got the news, he lifted up his voice, declaring the news to all those in the city.

Last time, we saw how verse 7 applies to Christ Jesus our Prophet, “How beautiful are **the feet of him...**” But in Romans 10, when the apostle Paul quoted verse 7, he applied it to gospel preachers, saying, “how beautiful are **the feet of them.**” He said,

Romans 10: 14: How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15: And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are **the feet of them** that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Today our subject is: **The Feet of Them.** We will see what God says of his preachers.

**Proposition:** The means God has ordained to save his people is gospel preaching. Our text tells us what all God’s ordained preachers are and what they shall do.

## **I. FIRST, VERSE 8 SAYS THAT GOD’S PREACHERS ARE “THY WATCHMEN.”**

### **The Gift of God**

God’s preachers are Christ’s gift to his people—THY watchmen.

Ephesians 4: 8: Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men...11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

So when the Corinthians were saying, I am of this preacher and others were saying I am of the other preacher, Paul said they are ALL yours—THY watchmen. He said,

1 Corinthians 3: 21: Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; 22: Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas,...;all are yours; 23: And ye are Christ’s; and Christ is God’s. 14: 1: Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

### **Watch MEN**

Note they are watch “men” and not watch “women.” In the church, women are to learn in silence for it is God’s order and because it was not the man, but the woman that Satan deceived in the garden.

1 Timothy 2: 11: Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12: But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13: For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14: And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

## **They Watch For Your Souls**

God's preachers are called "thy watchmen" because they watch for your souls. God's preachers are made watchmen by God.

Ezekiel 3: 16: And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 17: Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel:

God's faithful preachers get their message from God and give his people warning from God.

Ezekiel 3: 17:...therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

Verse 18 tells us, God's preachers must give account to God. If a man is a false preacher, he will fail to give warning from God as he ought, and God will require it of him. But God's true preacher will give warning from God, therefore he shall be delivered from the blood of others, even if they refuse to obey. God says,

Ezekiel 3: 18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 19: Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. 20: Again, When a righteous *man* doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 21: Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous *man*, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

This is a very serious charge to God's true watchmen. That is why the Spirit of God says in Hebrews 13:

Hebrews 13:17: Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Nothing causes more grief to a pastor than those who stiffen their necks and refuse to be taught. It is unprofitable for those who will not obey God's ordained means because those who will not have Christ's preacher to rule over them will not have Christ to rule over them! The LORD told Samuel, "they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them." (1 Sam 8: 7) But nothing is more joyful to a pastor than when your brethren delight to be taught and are willing to be taught. John said,

3 John 4: I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

## **II. SECONDLY, OUR TEXT SAYS GOD'S TRUE PREACHERS DECLARE THE TRUTH OF GOD BOLDLY—V8: Thy watchmen shall LIFT UP the voice;**

False preachers hold back certain doctrine or simply will not declare it or they mutter and peep so that you cannot exactly tell what they really mean. God says,

Isaiah 8:20: To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

But it is not so with God's preachers—they lift up the voice for all to hear all that God declares in the scriptures.

Isaiah 62:6: I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, 7: And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

The kind of warning that God gives to me to give to you is this: those of you who refuse to believe on Christ are in grave danger! The wrath of God is upon you. If you die today you will die in your iniquity. Therefore, God will justly cast you into hell for all eternity because God's justice demands it. But you cannot save yourself by any of your own works. Salvation is through faith in Christ, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Isaiah 55: 6: Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

And those of you who do believe,

1 Peter 5: 8: Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

**III. THIRDLY, OUR TEXT SAYS GOD'S PREACHERS ARE IN AGREEMENT WITH EACH OTHER—v8: Together with the voice shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion.**

The apostles and early believers literally saw Christ eye to eye.

John 1:14: And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

1 John 1: 1: That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life 2: (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 3: That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

But all God's true preachers are taught of the same Holy Spirit of God and have seen Christ through faith therefore they are all in agreement when it comes to the essentials of the gospel—T.U.L.I.P.

**T.—Total depravity** of all men.

In Adam all died. (1 Cor 15: 22)

"By the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation." (Rom 5: 18)

**U.—Unconditional election** by God the Father—

Romans 9: 10...when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; 11: (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) 12: It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. 13: As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. 14: What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. 15: For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will

have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16: So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

If God makes you to know your sin then makes you to know he chose to save you, you will say,

Ephesians 1: 3: Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

**L.—Limited atonement**—God the Son, Christ Jesus laid down his life for those the Father gave unto him and made atonement for them alone.

John 10:11: I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep....15: As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep....26: But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

John 17: 1: These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: 2: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

Isaiah 53:8: He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken....11: He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

**I.—Irresistible grace** by God the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 65:4: Blessed *is the man whom* thou choosest, and causest to approach *unto thee, that* he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, *even* of thy holy temple.

John 6:44: No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. 45: It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me."

John 6:63: It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

Ephesians 2: 4: But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5: Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;...8: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

**P.—Perseverance of the saints** due to preservation by our triune God.

Philippians 1:6: Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

1 Corinthians 1: 8: Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9: God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 8:30: Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Hebrews 3:14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

Hebrews 10: 39: But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Not only do God's preachers lift up their voices in agreement—his preachers lift up their voice together with the Voice of Christ. Notice in verse 6, the Lord says, "my people...shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak: behold, it is I." Then verse 7 speaks of the Lord's feet being beautiful, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings." Then verse 8 says, "Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing." Christ, the messenger of the covenant, comes across the mountains with the good news. As soon as his watchman gets the message from Christ, the watchman lifts up the voice together with the Voice of Christ.

Ezekiel 33: 7: So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.

It is by Christ speaking through his preacher that the word is made effectual. Christ said,

John 10: 27: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

That is why Paul said to the Thessalonians,

1 Thessalonians 2:13: For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

**Application:** To each of you here for whom I am responsible, I urge you to never neglect hearing the preaching of the gospel. Those times when you just do not have a heart to come and hear—those are the times you need to hear the gospel the most!

Romans 10: 17: So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 1:16:...the gospel of Christ:...is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. 17: For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

1 Peter 1:23: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever...25:...And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

Remember, we are saved through the preaching of the gospel of Christ not only in the first hour but throughout our life of faith. So as the Lord Jesus said do not simply hear. Hear then search the scriptures and ask God for understanding. Christ said,

Mark 4:24: And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

**Example: The Bereans**—Acts 17: 11: These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. 12: Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

Only those who truly called by his grace shall continue to hear and to search the scriptures and to ask God for understanding:

1 Corinthians 1:18: For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Galatians 6: 7: Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.  
8: For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

**Amen!**