

The Gospel according to the **PROPHETS**



SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER 2021 | PASTOR GREGORY

Bible Passage

Isaiah 61: 1-3

The Year of the Lord's Favor

1 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord
for the display of his splendour.

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Sermon Notes

Intro:

The Greek word for 'gospel' is 'euangelion'. It is another word for 'good news.' The English word 'gospel' is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word which means 'godspell.' It gives the meaning of 'good tidings.'

There were 351 prophecies about the Messiah in the Old Testament. They were made by the prophets who were appointed by God. The test of a true prophet is whether the prophecies they had made actually come to pass. In the Old Testament there were three tests the people could apply in order to discern between the true and false prophets.

- i. The Theological Test. (Deuteronomy 13:1-3)
- ii. The Practical Test. (Deuteronomy 18:20)
- iii. The Moral Test. (Deuteronomy 23:10)

1. The Gospel Has A Way To Shift Us

God announced the gospel to Abraham. (Genesis 12:1-3)
When God called him, Abram moved out in faith from the land of Ur to Canaan.
God told Abram, "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you."
This was God's irresistible call to Abram.

2. The Gospel Has A Way To Shape Us

Whilst in exile, Ezekiel revealed the gospel of a new kingdom. (Ezekiel 34:23-24)
It was a message of hope. But with the gospel of a new kingdom, there must be a new change of behaviour. (Ezekiel 36:26-27)
The gospel according to the prophet Ezekiel is transformational.
God says, 'I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.'

3. The Gospel Has A Way To Send Us

The prophet Isaiah the LORD Almighty sitting on the throne in Isaiah 6. Almost immediately, he was overwhelmed by his own inadequacy and hopelessness. But the Lord restored him and removed his guilt and sin. (Isaiah 6:8-9a)
Isaiah was sent out to be a prophet to the nation. He warned the people of sin and if they do not repent they will henceforth be judged. Interspersed with the dire warnings were the gospel of salvation. (Isaiah 61)

Conclusion:

Hudson Taylor, the founder of China Inland Mission now known as the Oversea Mission Fellowship (OMF) quoted this:

"God looked for someone weak enough to use, and found me."

Discussion Questions on the next page

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Discussion Questions

1. Have you experienced a shift in your life after hearing the Gospel? Or are you still stagnated in your 'old nature'?"
2. How has the Gospel shaped your life after God has replaced your "heart of stone" and put a new spirit in you? Do you see any great transformation with the fruit of the Spirit?
3. How did/would you respond to the Gospel especially in allowing God to use you as "salt and light" of the world? Are you passing on the Gospel to other people through your word and deed? Would you respond like the prophet Isaiah, "Here am I. Send me!"

The Gospel according to the **PSALMS**



SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 2021 | MARK LO

Bible Passage

Psalm 22: 1-31

- 1** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me,
so far from my cries of anguish?
- 2** My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,
by night, but I find no rest.
- 3** Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;
you are the one Israel praises.
- 4** In you our ancestors put their trust;
they trusted and you delivered them.
- 5** To you they cried out and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- 6** But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by everyone, despised by the people.
- 7** All who see me mock me;
they hurl insults, shaking their heads.
- 8** "He trusts in the Lord," they say,
"let the Lord rescue him.
Let him deliver him,
since he delights in him."
- 9** Yet you brought me out of the womb;
you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast.
- 10** From birth I was cast on you;
from my mother's womb you have been my God.
- 11** Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.
- 12** Many bulls surround me;
strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
- 13** Roaring lions that tear their prey
open their mouths wide against me.
- 14** I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.
My heart has turned to wax;
it has melted within me.
- 15** My mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
you lay me in the dust of death.
- 16** Dogs surround me,
a pack of villains encircles me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.

The Gospel according to the **PSALMS**



SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 2021 | MARK LO

Bible Passage

Psalm 22: 1-31

17 All my bones are on display;
people stare and gloat over me.
18 They divide my clothes among them
and cast lots for my garment.
19 But you, Lord, do not be far from me.
You are my strength; come quickly to help me.
20 Deliver me from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dogs.
21 Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;
save me from the horns of the wild oxen.
22 I will declare your name to my people;
in the assembly I will praise you.
23 You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, honor him!
Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!
24 For he has not despised or scorned
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.
25 From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;
before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows.
26 The poor will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord will praise him—
may your hearts live forever!
27 All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him,
28 for dominion belongs to the Lord
and he rules over the nations.
29 All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;
all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—
those who cannot keep themselves alive.
30 Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.
31 They will proclaim his righteousness,
declaring to a people yet unborn:
He has done it!

The Gospel according to the **PSALMS**



SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 2021 | MARK LO

Sermon Notes

Intro:

A common thread of the Gospel message in all scriptures

- Is the Bible a form of Steganography?
- You can find traces of Jesus and the gospel in almost every book of the scriptures
- (even the book of Numbers!)
- Messianic Psalms – Psalms about the Messiah

A closer examination of Psalm 22 – a Psalm about the Cross

Part I: – v1 to v21 Agony and Separation from God

- i. Abandonment and separation from the Father v1-5
- ii. The Scarlet Worm v6
- iii. Mockery and Scorn v7,8
- iv. Foretelling of the agony and emotions of crucifixion v12-18
- v. A Final Prayer for deliverance v19-21

Part II – v22 to v31 Ecstasy in Victory and Restoration

- i. God's name will be declared with Victory and Restoration v21
- ii. Justice at last v26
- iii. The gospel will be declared far and wide even to the unborn V31
- iv. He has done it! V31b

Conclusion:

- We can see the Messiah, Jesus being revealed in Psalm 22
- The Word of God is an integrated book all pointing to the Messiah Jesus
- When we next read Psalms, we can not only pray more reflectively but also feel and express the emotions that the Psalmists displayed.

Discussion Questions

1. In your group, share your experience about your prayer life, in terms of how expressive you have been in letting God know your feelings and emotions? Do you find difficulty in praying like some of the Psalms you have studied?

2. In your reading of the various books of the scriptures, inclusive of the Old Testament, have you been able to “detect” the common thread of the gospel throughout the book? What is the gospel in a nut shell?

3. Psalm 22 expresses the agony of the suffering Christ on the cross but the Psalm also shows that we might share some of the sentiments even though our experience might not be as deep and traumatic. Do you agree? Discuss with the group if the Psalm has helped you in your prayer life in any way.

The Gospel according to JESUS

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SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER 2021 | PASTOR RJ

Bible Passage

Matthew 7:13-23

The Narrow and Wide Gates

13 “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. **14** But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

True and False Prophets

15 “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. **16** By their fruit you will recognise them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17** Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. **18** A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** Thus, by their fruit you will recognise them.

True and False Disciples

21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ **23** Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

The **G03**pel according to **JESUS**

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SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER 2021 | PASTOR RJ

Sermon Notes

Intro: Invalid Insurance

1. The gospel denies easy admission
2. The gospel demands complete submission
3. The gospel helps discern real devotion

Conclusion: A brand new iPhone

Discussion Questions

1. Briefly share with your group where, how, and the exact moment you came to faith. Was there any 'counting the cost' involved?
2. What does it mean to you to forsake all things in order to follow Christ? What did God ask you to abandon then, and what is he asking you to abandon now?
3. How do you know you are a genuine follower of Jesus?