

### **August 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 2015**

**Text: Isaiah 35:1 – 10**

**Topic: Streams In The Desert**

There will be exceeding joy among the redeemed of the Lord. Nature is used to describe how every facet of life will be filled with joy. The desert, the crows, Lebanon, Carmel and Sharon will all see the glory of the Lord and the splendor of our God.

The final salvation of the redeemed, the highway is the way of everlasting joy, it is holiness, without which no one shall see God. When there is holiness, the impossible will happen and even streams can burst in the desert, dangerous animals will be at peace with each other. Holiness is not just the way to heaven is not for the unclean and the wicked, it is for those who have chosen to please God.

**Lesson:** It is not the golden street or the pearly gates that make heaven what it is, but the presence of God himself. To be in heaven is to be with God forever in total fellowship.

**Prayer:** Lord in you is holiness and you are the only way to heaven. Help us to live our lives in accord with your word. Amen.

### **August 24<sup>th</sup> Monday 2015**

**Text: Isaiah 36:1 – 22**

**Topic: Attack On The Righteous**

Assyria battled and conquered the nations surrounding her and now ask Jerusalem to just surrender because there will be no nation to help her, not even the sovereign God of Israel. The field commander tried to divide the mind of the people by asking them not to listen to their king who steadfastly maintains that “the Lord will deliver us” they even boasted “has the god of any nation ever delivered them from the king of Assyria”.

The king of Israel, Hezekiah and his people are of one mind because they know the God they serve. He had asked his people “Do not answer them” and so they did not answer them.

**Lesson:** No matter how the devil attacks us, if we know the God we serve we will never panic. All we need to do in times of trouble is to seek the face of the Lord in prayers.

**Prayer:** Oh Lord, give us the grace to stand still and depend on you when trouble overcomes us. Amen.

### **August 25<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 2015**

**Text: Isaiah 37:14 – 20, 33 – 38**

**Topic: The God Who Delivers**

Hezekiah first appealed to God, then he reported to the prophet and went into prayers. His prayer begins and ends with God. He addressed God as “O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim and seraphim” he also acknowledged that this God is sovereign, His prayer is from a heart that knows who God truly is and what he stands for. It is like the Lords prayer “thy will be done on earth” concerning the issue at stake.

The Lord answered the king instantly; God stepped in and changed the course of history to deliver his people. The king need not worry about how this will happen, because “the zeal of the Almighty will accomplish this. God sent a message to the king saying “because you have prayed to me (verse 34) by the way he came he will return,

he will never enter this city declares the Lord” verses 36 to 38 tells us of, the defeat of Sennachribs army and his tragic and shameful death. Indeed the Lord answers prayers!!

**Lesson:** The king trusted the Lord Almighty to save them. He prayed instead of acting or looking for alliance. God answered them instantly. Our faith in God can change the course of history.

**Prayer:** I pray Lord that you deliver me from the hand of the enemy “that all kingdoms on earth may know that you alone, O Lord is God”.

### **August 26<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2015**

**Text: Isaiah 38:1 – 22**

**Topic: The God Who Answers Prayer**

Hezekiah became very ill and a word from the prophet says that he was going to die. He was deeply shaken and wept bitterly before the Lord Almighty. Again, he turned to God in prayers and because he prayed, God shined His grace upon him, by adding fifteen years to his life span. God said “I have heard your prayers and seen your tears” Again, prayers made God to change the course of history so “the sunlight went back ten steps it had gone down” as a sign to king Hezekiah that indeed the Lord has increased his years on earth.

**Lesson:** Prayer is truly the only key to heaven. It can open all doors, and even make the hand of God move in a way that seems impossible to men.

**Prayer:** You are the only one that can help me in all situations. No matter how dark the road may be, help me to first pray to you as king Hezekiah did.

### **August 27<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2015**

**Text: Isaiah 39:1 – 8**

**Topic: Backsliding**

After king Hezekiah was healed and was assured by God that he will not die again until after fifteen years, he became relaxed. His fame increased and the king of Babylon decided to seek an alliance with him. He sent his people with gifts and instead of being careful, king Hezekiah decided to show them all that he had. He felt flattered and “there was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom that he did not show them” He has forgotten so soon that the Babylonians do not acknowledge his God, neither did he consult with God before even accepting them as he usually do. In his rush to impress the people of Babylon, he made alliance with a people who worship idols, people who do not trust the Lord of the Israelites.

Even today, no matter our level of faith, we must never take God for granted; we must never try to please ungodly people at the expense of our faith and our relationship with God.

**Lesson:** Hezekiah should have spent those added years in fear and trembling, as we ought to do when we are forgiven and assured of our salvation. Anytime spent outside the Lord could lead to the downfall of a believer.

**Prayer:** Lord. I pray that your loving presence will abide with me day by day, moment by moment, so that I will never stray from the way.

**August 28<sup>th</sup> Friday 2015**

**Text: Isaiah 40:1 – 11**

**Topic: The Forgiveness Of God**

There seems to be tension in the air, and so God gave the prophet three commands concerning His people. “Comfort, Comfort ye my people” then he should “speak tenderly” to them and then proclaim that “her sin has been paid for”.

His people should know that even in the midst of His wrath He has not forsaken them. That the covenant with their father still stands and like the prodigal son, they still have a father who loves and cares for them. They have been forgiven and the penalties of their sins have been paid in full.

Verses 3 to 5 is fulfilled in John the Baptist and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Even though men are like grass but the word of the Lord is worthy to be trusted because “The word of our God stands forever” God’s word expresses His character. God has spoken and the turning point from wrath to love has arrived and the coming of Christ is the fulfillment of His word.

**Lesson:** He so loves us that he gave His only son to die for our sins, to take away the wrath that was meant for us.

**Prayer:** Lord Father thank you for your love, for giving your only son to die in my place. Blessed be your holy name. Amen.

**AUGUST 29<sup>TH</sup> Friday 2015**

**Text: ISAIAH 40:12 – 31**

**Topic: INCOMPARABLE GOD**

Here Isaiah paints a picture of the incomparable nature of God. He is Jehovah, the ruler and maker of the universe, who can do all things and owns all things.

All the nations before amount to nothing, because God is the “everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth” and “His understanding no one can fathom” He is the only one who “gives strength to the weary and increase the power of the weak”.

**Lesson:** Because our God is incomparable, and because he has promised that those who hope in Him “will renew their strength” that “they will run and not grow weary” we can depend on Him even in difficult times.

**Prayer:** Blessed heavenly father, I acknowledge your incomparable nature. There is none like you and neither is there any God like you Lord help me to always depend