

Highlights From Isaiah 9:-02 His Name Is Wonderful

by James K. Boswell

The sermon highlights the transition from darkness to light, from ignorance to knowledge, from sin to purity, and from sorrow to joy, all through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Duration: 43:11

Scripture: Joshua 1:8, Isaiah 9:2-26

Topics: "Spiritual Growth", "Joy In Christ"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of preaching for a decision and making a verdict. He refers to a passage from Isaiah 9:1-7, which speaks about the people walking in darkness seeing a great light. The preacher then draws parallels to the story of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea and how God delivered them from Pharaoh's pursuit. He highlights the joy of the harvest and the joy of success in the Christian life. The preacher encourages the audience to experience the joy of knowing sins forgiven, becoming soul winners, and seeing others mature in their faith. He also mentions receiving a letter about a bumper crop, symbolizing the joy of seeing real fruit in one's life.

Transcript

Sing a chorus as good as all that, and as quickly as then, I am sure you must come from Wales. I think I told you before the Welsh people enjoy Salve because they can sing about it, the Irish because they can argue about it, the English because they can talk about it, but we Scottish people enjoy it because it's free, it's without money, it's without price. Another day in Spanish Wales a lady came up to me and said, Mr. Bosworth, the marvellous voice you have, it's so mellow.

And when you take a look at Westminster's dictionary, look at the word mellow, and what you read is overripe, rotten, half-tipsy. So there it is. Isaiah chapter nine, the ninth chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah.

We're going just to take a few to highlight of this prophecy these days we are together. Isaiah being called the evangelist of the Old Testament. Mr. Wilders and I were together a few days ago, and he was listening to the ministry.

He wasn't able to take part himself, but he was listening. He came up to me one day and said, I know there's something about you. He said, we never lose it, do we? I said, what do you mean, Harold? He

said, you're always preaching for a virgin.

Even when you're preaching to God's people, you're preaching for a virgin. You're going to preach for a decision. When the young Jordan in Galilee of the nations, the people that walk in darkness have seen a great light.

They that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, thou has multiplied the people and increased the joy. The joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as a man rejoins. And when men rejoin, when they divide, they're spoiled.

I want to read that verse again. I want you to know that you've got the knot out of it altogether. See how it reads.

For thou has multiplied the people and increased the joy. The joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as a man rejoins, when they divide, they're spoiled. For thou has broken the yoke of his burden and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of the oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments robed. But this shall be the burning and the fuel of fire a child is born. Unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end. Upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with justice, from henceforth, even for ever, the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform it. The Lord that is blessed into that shop, leading from his word.

The ninth chapters of the Bible are very, very precious. None more precious than the one of Isaiah. The prophecy of Isaiah has six to six chapters.

Thirty-nine making up the first, and twenty-seven making up the latter part. The very same regarding the Bible. Thirty-nine, the Old Testament.

When you come to the prophecy of Isaiah, taking the latter part again, there are twenty-seven chapters divided, and each section closing with these words, There is no peace, says my God, as to the wicked. Now when the Holy Spirit repeats Himself three times like this, it is for us to give up earnest heed and closer attention to what He is saying. There is no peace, says my God, as to the wicked.

The middle of those twenty-seven chapters is Isaiah 52, 13 to the end of 53, and the middle of verse is verse 5. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. We are healed. For this morning I want you to think with me here.

We have a messianic prediction in the verses I've read. Messianic predictions. Certain predictions touching on Isaiah, His coming, and His work, while here on earth.

Now I want you please, in verse number two, notice two emblems here. Darkness and light. Darkness and light.

And just see what the verse says. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. They that dwell in the land of the shadowed day, upon them has the light shined.

Now darkness and light. All by nature are in darkness. When God said, Adam, the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die.

And when Adam and Eve had partaken of that forbidden fruit in the garden, Eden, they both died. Oh no, they did not die physically, they died spiritually. And from that moment, the last baby born in the world, that spirit passed.

Beloved, we're not all there when we're born into the world. See Basil, talk for yourself. I am, but I'm talking for you too.

Because I believe that all the children of Adam. I don't think for one moment you came from a monkey. If you didn't, I didn't.

No, as in Adam, all died. By one man's sympathy, many were made sinners. And so that's how we are born into this world.

That spirit part is dead. That's why we must be born again. That's why we must receive a new life.

A heavenly life, a spiritual life. A life which is a life from above. God says in the book of Proverbs, the spirit of man is the candle of the Lord.

And so with Adam and Eve's sin, that candlelight was snuffed out. So man isn't only spiritually dead, he's spiritually in the dark. And of course 1 Corinthians chapter 2 says, The natural man cannot understand.

It's a closed book to the natural man. He can understand. Two young people from Cambridge University came to me one day and said, Mr. Boswell, do you believe the creation? Looking at that, I said, you know, Scotland, I'm going to answer your question by asking another.

Scotland always does that. It gives them time to think on the question. But, I said, here's the question.

Have you received the Lord Jesus for eternal life? He said, oh no. I said, well, we'll deal with that one first. And after two hours, those two young people got up from their knees.

Have you received the Lord Jesus, Lord and Savior? I turned to the young man and said, Gordon, what about Genesis chapter 1? Well, he says, that's all clear to us now. We know the author. You got it? The natural man cannot understand the things of spirit.

They are spiritually disturbed. That young man is in Zambia. That is his job.

But he's made work, his missionary work, and God's using him very deftly there. Now, keeping all that before you, I want you to think of the emblem of darkness, and here's where we all are as children of Adam. Irrespective of your social, your intellectual ability, or your scholastic achievement, your position, your property, or your possession, beloved, we're all in the dark, where God is concerned.

And we are spiritually angels. Not very complimentary, is it? To such a fine, refined, cultured congregation. But we must face facts.

We must face facts. And, friends, today we are spiritually dead by nature, and we're spiritually in the dark. Now, darkness speaks of ignorance.

It speaks of ignorance. It also speaks of sin. It also speaks of sorrow.

Now, there we are by nature. We're in darkness, we're in ignorance, we are in sin, and we are in sorrow for the terrible plight to be in. And, my friend, once we hear the glad tidings, those who stand in darkness have seen a great light.

Thank God the light has dispelled the darkness. Who is that light? The Lord Jesus said, I am the light of the world. He that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but I have come, the light of the world.

Now, isn't this just lovely? Now, what does the light speak of then? The light speaks of knowledge. Knowledge in contrast to ignorance. No longer are we ignorant regarding God, and God's word, and God's plan for our life.

Thank God tonight we've been brought into glorious knowledge. And we were once dark in the Lord. And the Bible says, if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another.

We were once away from them, out of fellowship. Isaiah 59, too. And we're gone.

But thank God for the believer. And we're no longer in darkness. We are now in the light.

No longer in ignorance. But thank God we're in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. We've come to know Him, whom we know is life eternal.

And we know the joy of this new life in Christ Jesus. Something more. Isaiah darkness speaks of sin.

But we're no longer in sin. Isn't that just wonderful to know the sin question has been dealt with? Father's sacrifice of him in 26. There again, O God, Jehovah, said it not.

Our glorious Lord. Thank God once in the end of the age, that Christ appeared to put away sin. Sin.

Father's sacrifice of Himself. And so we were once in sin. Speaking of England and sin.

The light speaking of knowledge and knowledge. Lastly, in this connection, sin speaks of sorrow. A little girl back in Bristol, England, where Mr. and Mrs. Fish, or Mother one day, Mommy, sin has taken all the happy out of my heart.

Now isn't that very childlike, but very sweet? Sin has taken all the happy out of my heart. And friends, when sin is ruling in your heart, there's no real joy. None whatever.

The darkness speaking of England. Oh, beloved today, get this. He became the man of sorrow.

May he forever rule. There is joy. May I go back over that little outline.

First of all, the darkness, England, sin and sorrow. But thank God the light. Remember 2 Corinthians 4.4 says, Lest the light of the glorious God, image of the invisible God, might shine unto them.

My friend, the God of the age, Satan. Who believed not. We saw that right here on the campus yesterday afternoon.

How sin, my friend, could blind the mind of an intellectual. Like that young nurse yesterday. But thank God we had to pray publicly.

The devils were out, and in the name of the Lord Jesus, on the ground of Calvary. And God delivered that soul. And brought it right into the glorious knowledge of sin forgiven through Jesus Christ our Lord.

It's the God of the age. Who's blinded it. Those who believe not.

Lest the light of the glorious God fall. My friend, you're here this morning without Christ. God, the God of the age, Satan.

Has blinded your mind because you believe not. The Bible says you're condemned already because you believe not. John 3.18 is crystal clear in this point.

We've come from darkness into light. We've come from ignorance into knowledge. We've come from sin into purity.

We've come from sorrow into joy. Isn't this lovely now? Now look, we'll see what this joy does. Verse number three.

Thou hast multiplied the people and increased the joy. Hallelujah. Love only gives us joy, but it's increased joy.

Not only love, it's life. Lord Jesus found me. Do you want real joy? Lasting joy? This joy, my friend, not found.

This joy's found. And if you have this one, my friend, you know joy. Real joy.

This joy. An increasing joy. And Christ is my joy in you.

That your joy may be full. And Nehemiah says, that joy of the Lord is your strength. That joy of the Lord.

Something more about this increasing joy. You know somehow or other, I look down this concrete. I know there's a lot of you.

And I look at your countenance and just see you're smiling from ear to ear. And I know you're not smiling at me. And you know this joy.

Remember in Acts chapter 2, it speaks about man's highest wisdom. To know Jesus Christ and whom he has sent. Oh, my friend, you can know this joy this morning.

The joy of harvest. The joy of knowing your sins forgiven. That is a wonderful joy.

To know your sins forgiven. We had a lot of it this morning. Whether, my friend, you were forgiven little or forgiven much.

But then God knows the joy you've been forgiven for his namesake. For his namesake. Oh, what joy, my friend.

The joy of the harvest. Where you're born to reproduce. We are reproducing Christians.

And what a joy it is when you lead your first soul to Jesus Christ. That's just like you catch what? Becoming a soul of the indwelling Christ. The joy of success.

And my friend, isn't this just lovely? Keep that before you. Keep your finger there. But go back with me for a moment.

By the way, am I talking far too fast for you? If I am, just try to keep up. Joshua chapter 1, please. And verse number 8. This book of the Lord shall not depart out of my mouth.

But thou shalt meditate therein day and night. That thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein. For then shalt thou meet thy way prosperous.

And then shalt thou have what? Good success. Beloved, observe to do. Thou shalt meet thy way prosperous.

And thou shalt have good success. I fully just now raise to you Joshua number 8. Joshua 1 and verse number 8. Thou shalt meet thy way prosperous. Then thou shalt have good success.

Another joy is the joy of victory. When you divide the spoils. Isn't this just lovely now? So there is the joy.

The increasing joy. The joy of harvest. The joy of success.

Are you going to be a successful, joyful Christian? And as you meditate upon God's holy word. You learn the will of God to get into your life. Then, my friend, you have success.

That spiritual success is going to convolve for time and for all eternity. But here is the joy of victory. I love this with all my heart.

I really do. As it was just the other day. God came in the salvation of precious souls.

Our hearts rejoiced and exulted together. I turn to those people who have been working there for a long time. Sowing the good seed.

I say, dear brethren, dear sisters. These are not my souls. You have done the sowing.

You have done the weeping. You have done the agonizing. These are your souls.

And the soul and the reproach are rejoiced together. Both now and at that day. From its face to face.

Oh, my friend. You go on sowing the good seed. That seed is powerful.

My wife is a very good gardener. She can't make too many mistakes planting potatoes. I remember getting those potatoes into the ground.

Six little things like marbles. Just as it was great. Just as it was great.

But the old potato was still there. Firm and strong as ever. Not being daunting, we go to the next set of potatoes.

This time it was more effort. Off they come. There they are.

Thirteen lovely majestic potatoes. Majestic was the name of the potato, by the way. But there they are.

Thirteen lovely potatoes. And I looked in vain for any trace of the old potato. Now, first one.

The old potato was still there. Strong and firm as ever. Six little things like marbles.

Here's the other. Thirteen lovely potatoes, but no trace of the old one. What is the lesson? John 12, 24.

Except a corn or wheat, it abides alone. But if it dies, the same bringeth forth much fruit. Brethren, we've got to die.

T.B. Gilbert came to me some time ago and said, I was speaking at a conference and he was in the congregation. He came up and said, It's a grand thing to hear a dead man preach. T.B. had known the secret of our union with Christ in death.

You are dead and your life is filled with Christ in God. Oh, the flesh will produce little things like marbles. They can produce professions, but they'll never develop.

They'll never mature. They'll give you many a heartache and many a sorrow. But when the Spirit of God does the work, there's no trace of the old life.

No trace of the old self-life. Oh, how we pray time and time again. May His beauty rest upon us as we seek the lost to win.

And may they forget the channel, seeing only Him. Not I, but Christ, in every look and in every action. Oh, to be saved from myself, dear Lord.

Oh, to be lost in me. Oh, that there may be no more I, but Christ, who lives in me. And it was John Welch who taught me that years ago back in Britain.

John Welch passed away in a French home in Harrisburg. He taught me that years ago. Our union with Christ in death.

I am crucified with Christ. Nevertheless, I live, yet not I. By Christ, liveth in me. There's no longer I, but Christ.

I love that, don't you? May I quote the verse again? Oh, to be saved from myself, dear Lord. Oh, to be lost in me. Oh, that there may be no more I, but Christ, who lives in me.

Except the corn of wheat fall into the ground and die. It abideth alone, not ever die. We're going to divide this for us.

We're going to divide this for us. The joy of glorious victory. Now, you go down to the next phrase, shall we? This is something very precious to me.

For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the stamp of his shoulder, and the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian. The word I want to give you is the joy of emancipation. See what it says? Thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the stamp of his shoulder, and the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin. He sets the prisoner free. His blood can make the foulest clean.

His blood avails me. The joy of glorious emancipation. Romans 6, verse 18 and verse 22.

And having him made free, made free, emancipated. Oh, the emancipating power is in Christ. He dispels the darkness.

He comes into the light. He removes, my friend, the deadness, and he comes into the light. This can all be yours this morning.

Oh, the emancipating power is in the gospel of Jesus Christ. I trust you. There they were way down the land of Egypt.

There they were down in Bondi, in the house of Bondi, on the great chasm out of Theru. Grumbling and grouching and complaining. No singing in Egypt.

No song in Egypt. Night, the very night the blood was applied to a suicide post, and never into the doorway. Remember, that same night they left the land of Egypt.

The blood was applied. And at midnight they moved forward. And they called their friends to come face to face with the Red Sea.

The Red Sea, the salvation of the Lord. The Egyptians whom you've seen today, you'll see them again no more forever. God save you.

Mercy. Go forward. And the children of Israel moved forward.

And as they did, the Red Sea divided from either side. And God sent a strong east wind. That dried up the bed of the Red Sea.

And the children of Israel walked right through and dried ground. Having now left the yoke and the bed of the Red Sea. And as they go on, they come up on the other side.

Forever. These two go right down. And God allowed the waters to come back.

Remember old Theru. I will pursue. I will destroy.

I will overtake. I will divide. And God just blew a little puff of wind.

That was all our God had to do. Just a little puff of wind. And remember, beloved, those waters rolled back.

And filled all His mighty heart. And when done, it led into the Red Sea. Now the children of Israel are standing on the other side.

The Lord has triumphed gloriously. In the depths of the sea. Thy right hand has become glorious in power.

Dear child of God. Deep down in your heart. The first song ever recorded in the Bible is Exodus 15.

The last song is Revelation 15. We know we are going to sing Revelation 15. The song emancipated by the blood of God.

Then stand, the children of Israel. Have you got a singing salvation? Have you got the joy of His glorious emancipation? The souls imprisoned of fear and of self and of sin. He's not a praiseful Christian.

Very far from that. But you can know the joy of His emancipation this morning. Free.

There's number five. And this shall be with burning and fuel of fire. It's the joy.
Now get this. Of the utter destruction of the enemy. The Egyptian whom you've seen today.
You'll assume again. No more forever. Now you've been going through Colossians.
In Colossians chapter two. What do you read? Verse fourteen. Having strict principalities and powers.
Then you're able to sing with all your heart. My chains are snapped. My bones are still unbroken.
And I am free. Oh let the triumph of His grace be spoken. Who died for me.
Hebrews two verse fourteen says. I love it with all my heart. This is the Lord we've come to know.
Isn't it? Amen. Isn't He a lovely Lord? Oh the joy my friends. The joy.
Increasing joy. Multiply joy. The joy of fruitfulness.
The joy of success. The joy of victory. The joy of glorious emancipation.
I love this. How may I know victory? So many cry. Commit thyself to Calvary.
Consent to die. God we have gained sinning loss. We die to live.
And His life comes. As the cross. My life I give you.
Though only in the measure. Which I have reckoned my whole life. Crucified with Christ.
Will I know Christ and all His fullness. 10th Romans 6. Reckon thyself to be dead indeed to sin. Crucified
with Christ that He now may reign within.
Reigns together with the Lord. Filled with life in you. Lostless victory for you.
The joy of victory. Blessed this morning go in. And possess out possessions.
In Christ Jesus. Coming from darkness. Into light.
Maybe someone will do that if you sing number 242. 242. We're going to look at that name wonderful
tonight.
Just that one name. Wonderful. Five aspects of how the Lord is wonderful.
To those who know Him. 242. Utter my bondage sorrow night.
Jesus I come. Into thy freedom gladness and light. Jesus I come.
242. I don't know my congregation here this morning. I don't know you all.
There's new and new pressing. There's no button holding. I'm asking you to stand up.
To raise your hand. To come. In the quad of your own heart.
I want you to decide on this. Into light. Come from bondage into glorious liberty.

Of the children of God. You can do that if you sing the same. 242.

See the contrast still in here. God is my strength. God is my strength.

Jesus I come. Jesus I come. Lord we'll move in silence.

In that moment may I ask you very lovingly. Have you made that decision in the soul of Jesus Christ? Will you act upon that decision? And here and now receive Him. As your Lord.

Have thy way Father. Work by thy spirit. Bring glory to thy wonderful name.

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