

Sunday, December 27th, 2020

Title: Joy to the World

Text: Psalm 96 and 98; Isaiah 52 - 54

Introduction:

Review of the last Sunday's devotional:

O Come Let Us Adore Him

1. Greatest Commandment
2. Greatest Revelation
3. Greatest Response

Reading: Psalm 96; Psalm 98; Isaiah 52 – 54

Joy to the World, written in 1719 by Isaac Watts (who studied at the Academy of the Rev. Thomas Rowe and became assistant minister of the Independent Church, Berry St. in London and in 1702 became the pastor, then in 1712 became the pastor of Abney Park) was based on Psalms 96 and 98 and was the most published Christmas hymn in North America. When published by Pastor Watts in his "Psalms of David Imitated" (1719) this hymn was under the heading of "The Messiah's Coming and Kingdom."

In the Holy Scriptures there are TWO main streams of prophecy concerning the Messiah, or the Christ: 1) that of the Suffering Servant, 2) that of the Servant King!

1. The Suffering Servant:

1.1) Isaiah 52:14 – Isaiah 53:

~ Isaiah 52:14, "*his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,*"

~ Isaiah 53:2, "*he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,*"

~ Isaiah 53:3, "*He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief,*"

~ Isaiah 53:4, "*Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows*"

~ Isaiah 53:5, "*But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that bought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.*"

1.2) Luke 2:11, "*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*"

~ John 1:29, "*The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*"

1.3) 1 Corinthians 15:1 -4:

"Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, (2) and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. (3) For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, (4) that he was buried. That he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,"

~ 1 Corinthians 15:17, "*And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.*"

2. The Servant King:

2.1) Isaiah 52:6 – 7, "*Therefore my people shall know my name, therefore in that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here I am. (7) How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."*"

2.2) Isaiah 54:4 – 8 (read)

~ Matthew 21:5 – 9

~ John 19:19 – 22, "*Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." (20) Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. (21) So the chief priest of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" (22) Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."*"

2.3) Acts 1:1 – 7

~ Zechariah 14:1 - 9

3. The Supreme King:

~ Revelation 21 and 22