

Series: Isaiah
Title: Feet of Him
Text: Isaiah 52: 7-10
Date: June 28, 30, 2013
Place: Bible Study/SGBC, New Jersey

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!

The children of Jerusalem were captured and enslaved to Babylon for 70 years.

Illustration: Imagine an enemy king and his fighting forces overtaking our country—breaking down most all of our buildings, and making us slaves.

Psalm 137 describes their sorrow:

Psalm 137: 1: By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. 2 We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof. 3 For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us *required of us* mirth, *saying*, Sing us *one* of the songs of Zion. 4 How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a strange land?

In the book of Lamentations we here more of their sorrowful state when they were in captivity in Babylon.

Lamentation 1: 1: How doth the city sit solitary, *that was* full of people! *how* is she become as a widow! she *that was* great among the nations, *and* princess among the provinces, *how* is she become tributary! 2 She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears *are* on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort *her*: all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies. 3 Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest: all her persecutors overtook her between the straits. 4 The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts: all her gates are desolate: her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she *is* in bitterness.

Then one day a messenger is seen on the mountain's horizon. Quickly he runs across the terrain inching closer and closer. They can't tell what he is saying at first. But eventually they hear what he is saying:

Isaiah 51: 22: Thus saith thy Lord the LORD, and thy God that pleadeth the cause of his people, Behold, I have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling, even the dregs of the cup of my fury; thou shalt no more drink it again: 23: But I will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee; which have said to thy soul, Bow down, that we may go over: and thou hast laid thy body as the ground, and as the street, to them that went over...52: 1: Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. 2: Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion. 3 For thus saith the LORD, Ye have sold yourselves for nought;...but NOW YOU ARE REDEEMED! YOU ARE FREE! PEACE HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED FREELY FOR YOU BY THY GOD! THY GOD REIGNETH!

Application: Now if that was you in captivity—if that was you sorrowing under the chains of bondage—if that was you enslaved, tread upon by your captors—wouldn't this be your cry of joy,

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!

I. BUT YOU WOULD HAVE TO BE IN BONDAGE FOR THAT TO BE GOOD NEWS TO YOU! MANY OF YOU SITTING HERE ARE IN BONDAGE—far worse bondage.

You were born into this captivity. Every child of Adam—you and I—came into this world under the bondage of the prince of darkness—the Devil. We were held in the captivity of sin, shut up under the curse of God’s holy law. And like the children of Jerusalem you cannot free yourselves—you have no way of freeing yourselves.

Application: You will never rejoice over the message of peace until you know that while you are outside of Christ, God is not at peace with you. Never rejoice in message of salvation until you need salvation.

Illustration: Woman dying in the snow—saw the lights!

Only sick people seek a physician; only sinners seek mercy. This is why I am honest with you about your present condition.

II. BUT GOD HAS SENT ONE OF HIS AMBASSADORS TO YOU. (2 Cor 5)

Did you know that is what Christ’s preachers are—ambassadors for Christ? Read the words of the apostle Paul,

2 Corinthians 5:20: Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.

(Romans 10) Paul applied our text to gospel preachers because “it pleased God through the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”

Romans 10: 13: For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 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!

III. BUT IF YOU HEAR MY MESSAGE IT WILL BE BECAUSE CHRIST HIMSELF HAS SPOKEN. OUR TEXT SPEAKS FIRST OF CHRIST HIMSELF—Isaiah 52: 6: Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak: behold, it is I. 7: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace;

How beautiful are Christ’s feet upon the mountains!

Song of Solomon 2: 8: The voice of my beloved! behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.

- Christ’s feet are beautiful upon **Mt. Sinai**—for the law teaches us our need of one to fulfill the law for us.
- Christ’s feet are beautiful upon that “**exceedingly high mountain**” where the devil tempted him with all the kingdoms of the world—for there Christ proved to be the Faithful One.
- Christ feet are beautiful upon **the Mt. where he preached the sermon on the mount**—for there we behold Christ the Prophet
- Christ’s feet are beautiful upon **Mt. Gerizim**—for there he converted the woman by the well.
- Christ’s feet are beautiful upon the **Mt. of Olives**—there he resorted to be alone and pray so there we behold Christ alone making intercession for his people.
- Christ’s feet are beautiful upon **Mt. of Transfiguration**—for there we get a glimpse of him in his glory and are taught Christ only is the one we should worship.

- Christ's feet are beautiful upon **Mt. Calvary**—for there our redemption and full atonement was accomplished by his suffering unto death.
- Christ's feet are beautiful upon **Mt. Zion**—for our risen Head rules all things in heaven and earth for his church, his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

Christ “bringeth good tidings.”

Isaiah 61: 1: The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; 3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

- Forgiveness in place of sin.
- Blood Atonement
- Justification instead of divine wrath
- Eternal Glory instead of hell!
- Good tidings! All accomplished by Christ Jesus, thy God who reigneth!

Illustration: It fills our hearts to get good news—these are good tidings!

Christ “publisheth peace.”

The Prince of peace became a man to reconcile his people to God because our sin made us the enemy of God.

Colossians 1: 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven. 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard...

Christ not only “publishes salvation” as he sends forth his preachers—he is salvation!

His name is Jesus—Savior.

Matthew 1: 21: “For he shall save his people from their sins.”

The “publishing of salvation” is that “salvation is of the Lord”:

- From election
- To redemption
- To regeneration
- To preservation
- To resurrection
- To glorification,

“Salvation is of the Lord.”

Application: Any preacher who puts even one aspect of salvation in your hands—is not preaching “salvation is of the Lord.” Do not give him a hearing!

Be sure to remember this: The Holy Spirit says, “How beautiful are the feet of them sent by Christ” But of those who sought to be teachers of the law, the Holy Ghost has said: Gal 5.12 "I would they were even cut off which trouble you."

By his person and work he saith to Zion—“Thy God reigneth!”

Christ is God Reigning!

Colossians 2: 8: Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. 9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

- He stilled the sea.
- He fed the multitude with a few fish and a few biscuits.
- He gave sight to the blind
- He raised Lazarus from the dead.

Christ is our King Reigning!

Zechariah 9:9: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Isaiah 33:22 For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

Micah 4:7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

Application: You and I have no strength. We do not reign over anything. And that is good. This is good too—nor does any other enemy that would do us harm reign over anything! **Christ Jesus—the GodMan—Reigneth!**

Matthew 25: 31: When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:” (Mt 25:31-34 AV)

Last Application: Every time I prepare a message, I pray for you who do NOT believe on him. I ask the Lord to make you to hear. If you are his, one of these days, he will open your eyes. You will see that you are captive in Babylon—it is usually bitter, always humbling—but so necessary to bring us down. But when he has brought you to cry for mercy, he will give you faith to see him coming across the mountains. He will speak into your heart—not audibly—but in a way that you will know it is him—for his said, “**my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak: behold, it is I.**” He will bring salvation and you shall believe—for he makes his **people willing in the day of his power.** Christ gives such sweet freedom in him—you will cry out with rejoicing:

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!

Then, like Mary, you will sit at his feet from then on! And all your enemies will be cut off. I pray he make it happen today!

Nahum 1: 15: Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace!
O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

Amen!