

Isaiah 61:4–9  
The Church that Jesus Builds

**Wednesday, June 19, 2024 • Read Isaiah 61:4–9**

*Questions from the Scripture text: What will those who hear the Servant do (v4)? By whom will they be served (v5)? And what will they be, enjoy, and obtain (v6–7)? What does YHWH love, and what will He make His people to be like (v8)? Who will see what about His people (v9)?*

**What effect does Christ's preaching have?** Isaiah 61:4–9 prepares us for the first serial reading in public worship on the Lord's Day. In these six verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **His preaching brings His own into eternal joy.**

Christ's effectual Word (v1–3) causes Zion to be rebuilt (v4) beyond anything it had previously been. Everything on earth serves the interests of His church (v5, 6c–d); but, God's people all become priests who attend to Him (v6a–b, cf. 1Pe 2:9). The outcome of being helpless in sin and having to be saved by Christ Himself is everlasting and infinite honor, inheritance, and joy (v7) as those whom Christ has made righteous/glorious (v8), which He also does for their children (v9)

**What are you hoping for as you come to Christ in His Word? What is He doing, as He brings it to You by His Spirit?**

*Sample prayer: Lord, thank You for Christ's saving, sanctifying, and glorifying. Minister it to us by His Word and Spirit; AMEN!*

**Suggested songs: ARP72C "May Waving Grain on Hilltops Thrive" or TPH403 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"**

**(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via [hopewellarp.org](http://hopewellarp.org))**

Isaiah 61 verses 4 through 9. These are God's words. And they shall rebuild the old ruins. They shall raise up the former desolations. And they shall repair the ruined cities. The desolations of many generations. Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks. And the sons of the Foreigner shall be your plowmen and your Vine dressers.

But you shall be named the priests of Yahweh, they shall call you the Servants of our God, you shall eat the riches of the Gentiles and in their Glory. You shall boast. Instead of your shame, you shall have double honor. And instead of confusion, they shall rejoice in their portion.

Therefore, in their land, they shall possess double. Everlasting Joy shall be theirs. For all y'all, I love Justice. I hate robbery for burnt offering. I will direct their work in truth and it will make with them an everlasting Covenant. Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles and their offspring among the people.

All who see them shall acknowledge them. That they are the posterity. Him. Yahweh has blessed. Amen, so far, the reading of gods inspired and an errant word. The book of Isaiah is starting to build up to a climax. One of the main themes of the past few chapters. Uh, has been that the people were Beyond help, they could not bring themselves to the Lord.

Even their best Deeds and their best thoughts, and their repentancing repenting their repentances. Um, were Thin and false and temporary and they look to other gods and they trusted in themselves and Um, they spoke to themselves peace when there was none. But now the Lord himself has come and has accomplished their salvation and he's done so especially by his servant.

His servant, who suffered in. Their place who suffered for their sin for their healing. Um, God's servant. Uh, God made, whom God made to be an everlasting Covenant for those who belong to God in him and we know, of course that this servant to Suffered for the guilt of his people to take it away.

And so that we might be healed is The Lord Jesus that this servant who is the Everlasting Covenant, the Everlasting bond.

Between God and his people. Is the Lord Jesus that he the Lord. Jesus is the one in whom. Uh, God has looked around and in Um, Aggressive answer to the fact that there is no one to say. Yahweh himself, the Lord. Jesus Christ has rolled up his sleeves. Is it where he's bared his holy arm and he has come to save his people.

Well, in the beginning of chapter, 61 the first three verses

So, we just wanted The Lord Jesus.

The Lord Jesus. Is portrayed not just as a savior, but as a preacher, And you remember the beginning of Isaiah 61 was the portion that fell to him. In his own Providence for he is God. In his divine nature, when he was preaching in the synagogue at Nazareth, And he opened it up and he read about himself preaching, and then, he said, this text says, or this scripture has been fulfilled today in your hearing.

And so that when the Lord preaches preach peace in himself, He doesn't preach peace. Where there is no peace, he preaches himself as the Prince of Peace. He preaches the peace that he gives his people as the true. Peace. And so verses one through three described, this preaching Ministry of the Lord, in bringing his people into salvation, and proclaiming to them the salvation into which he is bringing.

Bringing them. And now our portion in verses 4 through 9 today describes this salvation not just a rebuilding, a recovery of the church to what it should have been. Which, of course, it never really was. But a recovery that is beyond what was missing and What was lost? Uh, so that you have not only the rebuilding and repair of many generations, meaning, everything that has failed or been lost.

From the beginnings of the assembling of the church at Sinai. Um, but even Even what the church ultimately ought to have been and could not have been Until Christ was the prophet until Christ was the priest until Christ is the king. And so verse 7, instead of Shame double honor, Instead of confusion, they shall rejoice in their portion.

Therefore, in their land, they shall possess double Everlasting Joy shall be theirs and for them. The word double or the idea of the double portion was not just Um, a lot was not just twice as much. That stuff. It is the portion of the firstborn. The firstborn is the one to whom the double portion belongs.

Uh, and so There is a portion that belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ, that is his very own portion and by God coming in the person of Christ to save us we get not just Uh, the best We got not just the best portion. That could have been for a man.

We are brought into the portion that belongs to Jesus himself. And so, There is this. Rebuilding and repair. Uh, that is really a building for the first time. Of that, which is truly Divine similar to how when we talk about regeneration or being born again, we're talking about Being genuinely born for the first time because we started out dead.

And so it's really just generation and born finally being alive for the first time. And so, that's the, um, that's the picture of the strength and blessedness of, Christ's church as a consequence of his preaching here. And so, The Nations also are brought in. Uh, this isn't exclusive to Israel uh, to those physically descended We're from Israel to those who were from the nation that God built out of Abraham, but it goes to all of the Nations, all of the families that table of Nations.

Uh, 70 or so nations. Genesis chapter 11 of whom God had said in Abraham. All the families of the earth would be blessed. And says strangers become Shepherds and sons of the Foreigner plomen and Vine. Dressers everyone has a portion in this great estate. Everyone has a portion of the work, everyone has a part of the blessedness.

It's a great big um glorious household. And yet as he writes this to them And, They are going to have them this Royal. Identity and that they belong to the king and others are. Brought in under them, and we all do. Serve a, an Israelite abrahamic King from the tribe of Judah.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, but what is great or even than being Royal is to be a priesthood. So we say in Revelation, or they say in Revelation, not just, he has made us Kings unto, our God. But priests unto our God, and He calls us a roy. Uh priesthood because it is greater to be a priest to be near God than to be a king to be over men.

And so he says, you shall be named Priests of Yahweh. They shall call you the Servants of our God. This is the Blessed portion of the priest that he gets to come near God. Now, in the sacrificial system, the priest did not only come near God, but they had special portions from the various offerings by which God had given the worshiper to draw near through the ministry of the priesthood.

And so there are the riches of the Nations and the glory of the Nations and coming near God, um, is the boast or the glory. One through whom God gives someone else to come near. Uh and so for instance we had in Romans 15 recently the Apostle Paul glorying or boasting not in um What he has accomplished in his ministry but what Christ has accomplished through him that Christ has brought others.

Near and to God, Instrumentally using Paul to do so and this is Uh, the this A great Glory for a man to be. Or a woman to be one whom the Lord uses to bring others near to himself. This is especially a great glory from Mama. Who teaches her child of Christ?

And uses the means that the Lord has employed and gets to see God bring her son or her daughter. Uh, to Um, Uh, through Uh, but here, then our our Our great portion and our great riches and Glory that we can come near God through the Lord Jesus Christ and that we may be used of God to to bring others near to him.

In the Lord, Jesus Christ. And this is something. That the Lord gives us not only in our own generation. But his design for the New Covenant people for the Church of Jesus Christ under his Um prophetic and Priestly and kingly office is that it too would go down through generations.

Um, The Lord having come and given Christ for an everlasting, Covenant verse 8. The consequence verse 9, their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles and their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, they are the posterity whom the Lord had blessed. So again, Um, just like in the end of chapter 59, as for me says Yahweh, this is my Covenant with him.

My spirit who is upon you. In my words, which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, talking to the servant, nor from the mouth of your descendants. Describing now the Covenantal transmission from one generation to another in. The the church under Christ. Uh, more from the mouth of your descendants descendants says, Yahweh from this time forth forevermore.

So you have that in Isaiah, 59, 21, and we have at the end of our passage. In verse 59, their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles and their offspring among the people. All who should see them shall acknowledge them. They are the posterity. Has blasted. So there is this covenantal.

Uh, preservation and transmission. Of the Covenant of Grace. That is especially, To. The church under Christ. And when it doesn't, we ought to then Um, to find great fault with ourselves and cry out to God, in Repentance and return. To those things that Christ preaches, that worship that Christ leads from Heaven.

That way of life, that Christ commands as Because it is in having him as profit and priest and King. That the visible Church on Earth more and more comes. To conform to the shape. To the likeness. Of the invisible and everlasting church of the elect. As is described here.

In our passage. So may the Lord give us to Rejoice over the Lord, Jesus, our own God, the true and living God coming. Rather. To be our very own savior. And making us priests. Unto our God. And those through whom others come to be. As well, especially Those others.

Who are our offspring? And our offsprings Offspring. Hey man. Let's pray. Thank you, Lord, for coming and Preaching. Peace to us. The Lord Jesus Christ. Especially to us who At one time, afar off. But now have been brought near. And your son. Our Lord Jesus. And we do pray for your church.

Especially. Wow, a season of weakness in her. We see In this passage. How Christ is exalted, how you are exalted in bringing Um, seasons and generations of strength. And blessing. And Holiness. Into your church. And so we pray that you would have mercy and glorify your son, our Lord Jesus as prophet and priest and King.

By bringing a season of reformation and Revival. And rejoicing. Into your church into his church. For we ask it in his name. Amen.