Series: Isaiah 2023

Title: For My Name's Sake

Text: Is 48: 9-11 Date: Sept 15, 2024 Place: SGBC, NJ

Isaiah 48: 9: For my name's sake...

Proposition: God declares in our text that he saves his people for his name's sake.

In scripture, we find that when God called one of his elect, he changed their name—the meaning of the name declares who the Lord is to his people and what the Lord does for his people.

Abram to Abraham—"for a father of many nations have I made thee" (Gen 17: 5)—Christ is our everlasting Father, our everlasting last Adam.

Jacob to Israel—"for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed" (Gen 32:28)—Christ is the Prince of Peace, the Power of God, Christ has power with God and with men and hast prevailed."

The Lord says of his elect Israel—Isaiah 62: 2...thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name...4: Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married "

Revelation 3: 12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

Jeremiah 33:16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this *is the name* wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.

So the Lord name is upon those he calls out—such as it was upon the children of Israel. So when they sinned against God, he chastened and restored his true elect among them. The Lord declares that he did it for one reason—"For my name's sake." God saves his people—he chastens, corrects and keeps us--for his name's sake.

Division: In our text, the Lord gives a word that correlates to a specific aspect of his name--1) His name is righteousness--Isaiah 48: 9: For my name's sake will I defer mine anger [anger has to do with his righteousness; righteous indignation, angry with the wicked everyday] 2) His name is praise and to be praised by all--and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off. 3) His name is holiness--10: Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. 11: For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? [holiness is the antithesis of pollution] 4) His name is glorious—11...and I will not give my glory unto another.

HIS NAME IS RIGHTEOUSNESS

Isaiah 48: 9: For my name's sake will I defer mine anger...that I cut thee not off

Scripture says God is angry with the wicked everyday. And all God's elect are wicked by nature. Even for God's elect who he has sanctified, "when I would do good, evil is present with me."

When God's elect, saints in Israel sinned, why did God defer his anger? Why does he defer his anger when God's saints sin today?—"For my name's sake"—because he is the LORD our Righteousness. He defers his anger and will not cut off his child because Christ bearing our sin, Christ bore the full force of God's righteous anger and was cut off in our place.

Isaiah 53: 8: He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Christ satisfied justice for us. He everlives to intercede for us with the Father as our Advocate and our Righteousness. Therefore *for his name's sake*, for the sake of his Son, for the sake of Christ our Righteousness, God is faithful and just to be merciful toward us. God's elect were already cut off when Christ was cut off in our place.

Brethren, this does not make us want to sin. It makes us want to obey our Lord, to walk worthy of him. Also, when a brother falls, it makes us ready to show him mercy for the sake of the Lord our Righteousness because we know God's mercy to us for Christ's sake. Brethren, you are just to be merciful to your fallen brethren because he was already cut off in Christ on the cross.

HIS NAME IS PRAISE

Isaiah 48: 9...and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off.

Judah was a type of Christ. Judah means praise.

Genesis 29: 35 And [Leah] conceived again, and bare a son: and she said, Now will I praise the LORD: therefore she called his name Judah; and left bearing.

Christ is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. Praise is Christ's name.

Genesis 49: 8: Judah, thou *art he* whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand *shall be* in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. 9 Judah *is* a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?. 10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*.

Revelation 5: 5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

For my name's sake—for the sake of my Son, Christ Jesus, for the sake of Praise—for the sake of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah--will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off. God our Father's purpose in saving us is to bring us to praise his name—Christ Jesus. He elected us in Christ. He predestinated us to be conformed to the image of Christ. He adopted us to himself by Christ. He redeemed us through Christ's blood. He shall keep us and save us "that we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted Christ" (Eph 1:12, 14)

Believer, it is God's saving mercy in Christ that produces praise in our hearts for God our Father and his Son Christ Jesus. We cry...

1 Chronicles 16: 35:...Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, that we may give thanks to thy holy name, *and* glory in thy praise.

HIS NAME IS HOLINESS

Isaiah 48: 10: Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. 11: For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted?

We see this has to do with the holiness of his name because holiness is the antithesis/opposite of pollution. Our sin pollutes us. When the Holy Spirit creates a holy heart within us, he purges our conscious from the pollution. Christ is Holiness, the Holiness of our new heart.

His name is holy. God will not allow our enemies to blaspheme his name, to count his name common as any other name. And he will not allow his children to profane his name, "For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted?"

Ezekiel 36: 19: And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them. 20 And when they entered unto

the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These *are* the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of his land. 21 But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. 22 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not *this* for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. 23 And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I *am* the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. 24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

When the true elect in Israel sinned, God sent them into Babylonian captivity. It was a furnace of affliction, not to destroy, but to purge them. So it is with the affliction God puts us through. God promises to remember our sins no more. But our Father is never pleased with our sin. Our sin profanes his holy name. So he will correct us. He will chasten us. It is in love to keep us partaking of Christ our Holiness.

Hebrews 12: 6: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. 7: If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?... 10:...he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

"Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction." "Not with or as silver" means God's chastening is not in the strict fire of justice. It indeed is a furnace of affliction. Chastening is not meant to be pleasurable, but grievous, else it would not be chastening. But it is not the intense fire of unrestrained justice which our sins deserve. It is the chastening hand of a loving Father.

Isaiah 27:8: *In measure*, when it shooteth forth, thou wilt debate with it: he stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind. 9: By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged; and this is all the fruit to take away his sin

Psalm 103: 10: He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. 11: For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. 12: As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. 13: Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. 14: For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Affliction, chastening, is painful. But be thankful for God's affliction. God always successfully sanctifies his holy name in our hearts. He brings us again to behold Christ our Holiness and keeps us walking in holiness, running the race looking to Christ alone. He will not lose one for whom Christ died for he will not permit his holy name to be profaned. The blood of Christ cannot be shed in vain. The seal of the Spirit cannot be broken. The gifts and callings of God are without repentance. He will never cease to love his people for he will not allow his name to be polluted!

HIS NAME DECLARES HIS GLORY

Isaiah 48: 10...and I will not give my glory unto another.

When the Lord showed Moses his glory, the Lord proclaimed his name—God name is his glory—his name is revealed in Christ his Son.

Exodus 34: 18 And [Mosses] said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. 19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy....21 And the LORD said, Behold, *there is* a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: 22 And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:...35: 5: And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. 6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, 7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear *the guilty*; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children,

unto the third and to the fourth *generation*. 8 And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped.

Christ is that Rock. God's glorious name is declared in Christ. Christ is glorious to us.

Isaiah 11:10: And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

Have you beheld God's glory in the face of Christ Jesus? God's purpose in saving sinners is to glorify his name in Christ Jesus his Son. So that ought to be our aim in our life—to glorify his name, Christ our Savior. For the glory of his name—Go and sin no more. For the glory of his name—look no more to the idol gods of this world, only to him. For the glory of his name—delight to do his will. For the glory of his name—keep yourself from everything impure and unclean. Only the grace and glory of his great name working effectually in the newly created heart does that.

Jeremiah 3: 21 A voice was heard upon the high places, weeping *and* supplications of the children of Israel: for they have perverted their way, *and* they have forgotten the LORD their God. [but behold the glory of God's name; he says to his elect who sin] 22 Return, ye backsliding children, *and* I will heal your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee; for thou *art* the LORD our God. 23 Truly in vain *is* salvation hoped for from the hills, *and from* the multitude of mountains: truly in the LORD our God *is* the salvation of Israel.

Why does God save his children, he says, "for my name's sake!" Do all for his name's sake!

Amen!