

Immanuel: *The Gift of Joy*

Isaiah 11:1-10

The Setting (Isa 10)

- Isaiah is telling Judah not to fear the Assyrian empire
 - For God will raise up another power to judge them
- This cycle is part of God's plan
 - But the day is coming when the cycle will end

Hope (11:1-5)

- God will raise up a king from the line of David
 - Jesse was the father of David
- “Shoot from a stump”
 - Like a tree that has been chopped down, yet it continues to grow
 - This implies that the David kingship will *seem* destroyed
- He will reign:
 - By God's Spirit (John 1:32)
 - Who is described as giving wisdom & understanding (Luke 2:40, 47; cf. Col 1:9)
 - With justice for the poor (Luke 4:17-20; quoting Isa 61:1-2)

Peace (v. 6-8)

- This king will bring about peace
 - Not just among the nations
 - But throughout all of creation
- And He will come as a child (v. 6b)

Joy (v. 9-10)

- This coming peace means current joy for God's people
 - This is an eschatological picture of Jesus' work
- Joy: Looking beyond our current circumstances to God's promises in Jesus
- This assurance comes from knowledge of the LORD (v. 7b)
 - Knowledge: Relationship with God

So What?

- Jesus is God's gift of joy
- When we have a relationship with Him:
 - We have *hope* rooted in the past
 - Because we have *peace* in the present
 - And we look forward with *joy* to the future where He will right every wrong
- He is Immanuel, God with us

Meditation Verse: *Luke 2:10-11*