

A Turning Point
December 6, 2020
Fireside Room
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Isaiah 9: 1-7



Opening Prayer

Structure and Goals of the Class:

1. To see God's _____ even when things don't go our way.
2. To recognize the faithfulness of God in _____ things.
3. To realize that God wants to be in a _____ with us.
4. To see that turning points are in our _____.
5. To make us _____ for a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Devotional: Isaiah 9:1-7 using Lectio Divina

Reflecting Upon a Major Turning Point in Your Life:

1. Where were you?
2. Who were some of the key people involved?
3. What were some of the circumstances in your life?
4. Looking back, how do you see God's hand in the situation?

Getting to Know Isaiah:

1. He prophesized approximately _____ years from 747-681 BC.
2. He was a _____ when the Lord called him to be a prophet (Isaiah 6).
3. He was a prophet who spoke on _____ of God.
4. He lived during the fall of the Northern Kingdom in _____ BC by the Assyrians.
5. He had the great ability to _____ ahead and see that:
 - a. Jerusalem would be captured by the Babylonians, which occurred in 587 BC (Isaiah 5).
 - b. The Messiah would come in the form of a child (Isaiah 9).
 - c. The Messiah would come from the branch of King David (Isaiah 11).
 - d. The Messiah would be a suffering servant (Isaiah 53).

What Others Have Said of Isaiah:

1. Gregory of Nyssa (c. 335–395) believed that the Prophet Isaiah "knew more perfectly than all others the mystery of the religion of the Gospel."
2. Jerome (c. 342–420) said, "Isaiah was more of an Evangelist than a Prophet, because he described all of the Mysteries of the Church of Christ so vividly that you would assume he was not prophesying about the future, but rather was composing a history of past events."

Axioms from Isaiah's Time:

1. Our lives will _____ be the same.
2. God has _____ about us.
3. Our world has been turned _____ down.

Themes from Isaiah:

1. The Lord is sovereign over _____ things.
2. God will have compassion on his people and will _____ them from political and spiritual oppression. (Isaiah 43)
3. New _____ will come:
 - a. Water springing up in the desert.
 - b. The Lord providing a highway for the exiles to return.
 - c. Jerusalem returning to be the "City of the Lord." (Isaiah 60)
 - d. The Lord providing a child to bring us new life.

Take Aways:

1. When we are down to _____, God's up to something.
2. God is _____ even when we can't see, feel, or experience God.\
3. We need _____ like Isaiah in our lives.
4. How is God asking you to be an Isaiah during this time?

Closing Thoughts and Prayer