

**Series:** Isaiah

**Lesson #9**

**Title: Work of the Lord and Operation of His Hands**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 5: 26-30

**Date:** 10-19-08

**Place:** Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Princeton, New Jersey

If a bio of you is to be published, if it is within your power to do so, you see to it that it is published correctly. You make sure all the information is included and nothing erroneous is added. You do it because your name is behind it.

When it is published the first thing you do is to read it and make sure all the information was published the way you sent it to be published. You do it because your name is behind it.

The name of the thrice holy God is behind all his work. He has the power and for the sake of his holy name, everything he performs is done perfectly.

**Daniel 4:35: And all the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?**

- Before he created the heavens and the earth only the Word existed.

**John 1:1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2: The same was in the beginning with God. 3: All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.**

- He spoke everything into existence by his Word.

**Hebrews 11:3: Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.**

- He raised up prophets made holy by him and breathed his word into the hearts and used their mouths to speak his will and their pens to put it in writing.

**2 Peter 1:21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.**

- He has preserved this word just as he has held everything in place--held in the balance--by the very one he has spoken to us by in these last days.

**Hebrews 1: 2: Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3: Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power**

- By the Word--by the incarnate, living Word--came grace and truth.

**John 1: 14: And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. 15: John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. 16: And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. 17: For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.**

- By his own Word of grace he wrote the names of a people in the Lambs book of life before the world began
- By his own Word of grace he sent forth his Son--the Word--who made flesh
- By his own Word grace--mercy and truth--judgment met in perfect righteousness on the shoulder of the Lamb he provided.
- Holiness was magnified to the heavens by Jesus Christ
- Mercy was magnified to the darkest hearts by Jesus Christ
- Without the law, without the prophet--witnessed by both--without any one to help for he looked and there was none--he tread the winepress of God's holy fury alone.

- Just like he raised up all the holy prophets he said:

**Jeremiah 3:15: And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.**

- The reason they are pastors after his own heart is because they do not come in their own name, preaching their own ideas, mingling their work with his, making men think there will is separate from his will, but they come preaching HIS WORD.

**I Corinthians 15: 3: For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4: And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**

- By the word of truth the Spirit quickens whom he will and the Word speaks eternal life into spiritually dead hearts through the gospel.

**2 Corinthians 4:6: For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, (LET THERE BE LIGHT) hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

- Paul said neither circumcision or uncircumcision availeth--no you do or do not do avails anything, but a new creature--new creation--created by the same Word who created the first creation. He did not depend on Adam to make his work good--he did it and said, It is good.

**Isaiah 5: 12: And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands. 13: Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because *they have no knowledge*: and their honourable men *are* famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. (v19-25)**

Little--puny, fumbling, fickle, black hearted rebels against God, worms, fleas, dead dogs loving to slumber--imagine Infinite Wisdom can be outwitted. That Providence himself can be counteracted.

Now here is our text: (read Isaiah 5: 26-30)

We live in a day where a form of godliness is easy to be found. Yet, the power of God is denied. A great deal of what men regard as great works of grace are nothing more than great works of deceit. Paul spoke of **false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works** (2 Cor 11: 13-15.) And sadly, the wicked heart is impressed this subpar power of devils which is nothing more than out-and-out scoffing at the almighty works performed by the omnipotent God of heaven and earth.

**Proposition:** God who is sovereign to destroy all our enemies is sovereign to work righteousness for his people and in his people. He is sovereign to redeem his people in judgment and convert his people to himself in righteousness. The Holy One of Israel is all-powerful both to will and do his good pleasure in us and among us. It is only by his power that his people are made to willingly do what pleases him.

God will vindicate the honor of his holiness and authority the same way he saves, in judgment and in righteousness--v16

The same power of God which is mighty to destroy his enemies is mighty to save his people.

**Isaiah 5: 26: And he will lift up an ensign to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly:**

**HE WILL LIFT UP AN ENSIGN--**

**A. This is how he will bring his enemies and their enemies upon them to destroy them.**

1. Hiss--refers to an old custom of luring bees out of hive

2. For the rebel this ensign is merely God taking his hand off of him so they can vent what is in their heart.

**Isaiah 10:5: O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. 6: I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. 7: Howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but *it is* in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few.**

- Do you think God would have to look far to find someone with murder in their heart toward you?
- He did not have to look past the table of our Lord to find Judas!
- All he had to do was take off the restraints and to Judas all the signs pointed toward betrayal.

**Isaiah 45:1: Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;**

B. The same way he takes his hand off, leaving a hard hearted sinner in just reprobation, he puts his hand on one of his vessels of mercy and makes them behold Christ the Ensign.

- Is 11: 10-12

**V27: None shall be weary nor stumble among them; none shall slumber nor sleep; neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed, nor the latchet of their shoes be broken:**

A. These Enemies Which Are the Rod In His Hand Against His Enemies

- None shall be weary nor stumble though they come from far
- None shall slumber nor sleep for excitement at the prize ahead
- The girdle of their loins shall not be loosed, nor the latchet of their shoes broken no matter the rough and rocky terrain.
- This is a heathen nation--never had the oracles of God--this is power of God.

B. The Same Manner Toward Those Who Are His Elect

1. David said, "I have been young and now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread."

**V28: Whose arrows *are* sharp, and all their bows bent, their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind: 29: Their roaring *shall be* like a lion, they shall roar like young lions: yea, they shall roar, and lay hold of the prey, and shall carry *it* away safe, and none shall deliver *it*.**

A. For the enemy of God this only has to do with carnal weapons and carnal, temporary use...and that use is by God to accomplish his purpose in the earth.

B. For the believer, for those God has everlastingly loved, for those redeemed by the blood of Christ and regenerated by the Holy Spirit these weapons promised by God and this strength are all spiritual. (Ephesians 6: 10-20; 2 Cor 10: 4.)

**V30: And in that day they shall roar against them like the roaring of the sea: and if *one* look unto the land, behold darkness *and* sorrow, and the light is darkened in the heavens thereof.**

- Isaiah 2: 11; 5: 15-17