

Sermon #44 — Isaiah Series

Title:

THE GLORIOUS
REST OF OUR REDEEMER

Text: Isaiah 11:10

Subject: *The Rest of Christ and His People*

Date: Sunday Evening — March 4, 2018

Readings: *Bobbie Estes and David Burge*

Introduction:

My text is the last sentence of Isaiah 11:10. Let's begin our reading at verse 1.

(Isaiah 11:1) “And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: (2) And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; (3) And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: (4) But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he

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slay the wicked. (5) And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. (6) The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. (7) And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (8) And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. (9) They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (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.”

“**His rest shall be glorious!**” — Everything in our this chapter speaks of our blessed Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ and his salvation. He is “*the Root of Jesse.*” He is “*the Ensign of the people.*” He is the One to whom God’s elect from among the Gentiles,

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as well as the Jews, are gathered. Christ is the One we seek. Let's gather around him and ask the Spirit of God to teach us the meaning of these words. — *“His rest shall be glorious.”*

Without question, the glory of his rest is in complete harmony with the glory of all that he has done as our Mediator, Substitute, and Redeemer.

The man who labors hardest enjoys rest most. His labor in the day prepares him for and makes his rest in the night sweet. And the glorious rest of our Redeemer must be connected with the work he performed before he entered into his rest.

- Christ himself is glorious.
- His obedience to God as a man was glorious.
- His death was glorious.
- His resurrection was glorious.
- And now his rest, the rest which he has won, the rest which is the crown of his glorious work, is itself glorious.

Indeed, his rest is his glory! If you read the marginal translation of our text in your Bible, you will see that the text might be read — *“His rest shall be glory.”*

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Proposition: The Lord Jesus Christ has entered into a glorious rest and he graciously gives a glorious rest to all who seek him.

Divisions: I will give you my message tonight under three points.

1. The rest Christ has obtained is glorious.
2. The rest Christ gives to his people is glorious.
3. The rest symbolized in the Lord's Supper is glorious.

REST OBTAINED

1st — **I want us to see that the rest Christ has obtained is glorious.** There is a rest that belongs to Christ personally as the result of his work of obedience he rendered unto God the Father as our Mediator, Substitute, and Surety. And that rest is glorious.

The first rest our Redeemer obtained was the rest of his suretyship engagements on our behalf (Zephaniah 3:14-17).

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(Zephaniah 3:14-) “Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. (15) The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, *even* the LORD, *is* in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more. (16) In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: *and to* Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. (17) The LORD thy God in the midst of thee *is* mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.”

All the promises of these verses are covenant promises made to the people of God before the world began. They were made in anticipation of Christ’s obedience to God as our Substitute. Read the promises of God and rejoice.

1. “*The Lord hath taken away thy judgments.*”
2. “*He hath cast out thine enemy.*”
3. “*The King of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee.*”
4. “*Thou shalt not see evil anymore.*”

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5. *“The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty.”*

6. *“He will save.”*

7. *“He will rejoice over thee with joy.”*

8. *“He will joy over thee with singing.”*

9. *“He will rest in his love.”*

Now look at this one closely. — “He will rest in his love.”

What does that mean? It means that when the covenant of grace was ordered in all things and sure, when the matter of our salvation was firmly fixed and accomplished in the purpose, oath, decree, and covenant of God’s grace, knowing that his purpose of grace would be infallibly carried out, God our Savior rested in his love (Romans 8:28-30; 2 Timothy 1:9).

(Romans 8:28-30) “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. (29) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. (30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom

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he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.”

(2 Timothy 1:9-11) “Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, (10) But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: (11) Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.”

Eternal love devised and settled the matter of our redemption and salvation. And God our Savior rested in his love from eternity, being assured that “*he will rest in his love*” in eternity.

1. The objects of his love will never change.
2. The purpose of his love will never fail.
3. His rest in his love will never be disturbed.

God is not anxious about the salvation of his people. He is resting in his love!

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When our Lord Jesus had finished all His work in this world as our Substitute, his body rested in the grave (Psalm 16:9).

(Psalm 16:9) “Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.”

He did not rest until his work was finished. He had come to do the Father’s will. And he would not rest until it was done.

1. He fulfilled all the righteousness of God for his people.
2. He went to the cross to make satisfaction to God’s offended justice on our behalf.
3. He was made to be sin for us.
4. He died under the wrath of God as the greatest sinner who ever lived, to make satisfaction to divine justice as our Substitute.
5. He finished the work.

For three days his body laid in the tomb in an unjustified state, as the scapegoat bearing our sins

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away. But in those three days he rested in hope of his resurrection (Psalm 16:9-11).

(Psalm 16:9-11) “Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. (10) For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. (11) Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence *is* fulness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.”

And on the third day (Oh, glorious day!) our blessed Redeemer was “*justified in the Spirit*” (1 Timothy 3:16). He was raised up from the grave without sin! Our sins which had been made his sins, the sins which he bore in his own body on the tree, all the sins of all God’s elect were taken away!

After that, our Redeemer was received up into glory, and there he enjoys a glorious rest at the right hand of the majesty on high (Hebrews 10:12-14; Isaiah 45:20-25).

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(Hebrews 10:12) “But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God; (13) From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. (14) For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.”

(Isaiah 45:20-25) “Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye *that are* escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god *that* cannot save. (21) Tell ye, and bring *them* near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? *who* hath told it from that time? *have* not I the LORD? and *there is* no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; *there is* none beside me. (22) Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else. (23) I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear. (24) Surely, shall *one* say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength:

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even to him shall *men* come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed. (25) In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.”

Our all-glorious Christ is taking his rest now, for his work of redemption is all done.

- Righteousness is established.
- Redemption is accomplished.
- Satan is conquered.
- God is glorified in that Man who is God.

When the end has come, Christ shall deliver up the kingdom to the Father, and he shall forever rest in his glory (1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

(1 Corinthians 15:24-28) “Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. (25) For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. (26) The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death. (27) For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are

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put under *him*, *it is* manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. (28) And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.”

This will be the final climatic act of our Lord Jesus Christ as our Mediator in fulfilment of the covenant he made with the Father as our Surety before the world began (Hebrews 2:13; Ephesians 5:25-27; Jude 24-25). Truly, “*his rest shall be glory!*”

(Hebrews 2:13) “Behold I and the children which God hath given me.”

(Ephesians 5:25-27) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; (26) That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, (27) That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

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(Jude 1:24-25) “Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, (25) To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.”

REST GIVEN

2nd — **I want you to know that the rest Christ gives to his people is glorious.** I have tried to show you the glory of Christ’s rest as our Mediator. But I want each of you to know the glory of that rest which Christ gives to all who trust him. **The rest I am talking about now is the rest of faith in Christ. It is that glorious rest which is the fulfilment of the Old Testament Sabbath** (Hebrews. 4:3-11).

(Hebrews 4:3-11) “For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. (4) For he spake in a

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certain place of the seventh *day* on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. (5) And in this *place* again, If they shall enter into my rest. (6) Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: (7) Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, Today, after so long a time; as it is said, Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (8) For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. (9) There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. (10) For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God *did* from his. (11) Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.”

By faith in Christ we find rest in the grace of God and the providence of God. This is the sabbath rest of faith. It is...

- The rest of complete forgiveness (Isaiah 44:22).

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- The rest of relief from earthly care (John 14:1; 1 Peter 5:7).
- The rest of our Lord's presence, power, and provision (Philippians 4:4-7).
- The rest of a satisfied heart (Psalm 73:25-26).
- The rest of freedom from the fear of death (Hebrews 2:14-15).
- The rest of everlasting glory in heaven (Hebrews 4:9).

Truly, the rest which Christ gives to those who trust him is a glorious rest.

REST SYMBOLIZED

3rd — **The rest symbolized in the Lord's Supper is glorious.** We are gathered here around the Lord's Table. And everything here is a picture of rest. The bread and wine represent the body and blood of our Divine Redeemer. They symbolize the accomplishment of our redemption by Christ.

The Jews ate the Passover with their staff in their hands and their coats on their backs, in haste, because

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they were about to enter into a long conflict. — But we eat the Lord's Supper sitting at his Table, resting, because our warfare is accomplished, and we have entered into rest. Sitting here, at this table, everything is peaceful, restful.

1. We sit at the Lord's table with the sweet rest of knowing we are one with Christ (Ephesians 4:32).
2. We are the sons and daughters of Almighty God (1 John 3:1).
 - Lazarus.
 - Mephibosheth.
3. Our Lord has made complete provision for our eternal welfare (Romans 8:17).
4. Our Savior will soon come again to receive us unto himself (John 14:1-3).

(Matthew 11:28-30) “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye

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shall find rest unto your souls. (30) For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.”

As we eat this bread and drink this wine in remembrance of our Savior, let us rest in his love.

Amen.