

Sermon #122 — Romans Series

Title: **GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING**

Text: Romans 10:15

Subject: *Gospel Preachers God's Gift*

Date: Sunday Morning — June 25, 2017

Reading: *Isaiah 52:1-15¹*

Introduction:

The title of my message is — **GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING**. That is some title for a sermon; but I am confident that it is exactly the right title for this message. — **GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING**.

What, do you suppose, would be the greatest blessing you could have in this world? What do you think might be the greatest act of judgment that could fall upon you, the greatest curse God almighty could send upon you in this world? Listen carefully, and I will tell you. I am going to make **FIVE STATEMENTS** that I want you to hear and remember.

1. The greatest blessing can ever bestow upon **any people** in this world is to send them a man to preach the gospel to them. — **A preacher to tell them who God is, who Christ is, what he has**

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

done for sinners, and how God saves helpless, fallen, depraved sinners by his grace!

2. The greatest blessing God can bestow upon **any local church** is to give them a pastor who faithfully, boldly, and consistently preaches the gospel of Christ to them without compromise, without courting the favor of men or fearing the frowns of men.
3. The greatest blessing God can bestow upon **any town or community in this world** is to establish in their midst a gospel church with a gospel preacher, holding forth in their midst the gospel of God's grace and glory in Christ.
4. And **the greatest judgment**, the greatest curse God almighty can bring upon any people, any church, any town, or any community is to silence or remove the voice of his prophet, to remove his candlestick, to silence his witness, and leave them to themselves, to grope about in darkness until they go to hell.
5. **Nothing on this earth is so important, so absolutely needful to you and your family, as the preaching of the gospel.**

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

I have prepared this message with many things lying upon my heart with great heaviness.

- Your Immortal Souls
- The State of the Church Today
- The Fact that My Race will Soon be Over — My Work is Almost Done
- The Future of this Congregation

Open your Bibles to the 10th chapter of the Book of Romans.

Several years ago, I read an article in a religious periodical which made this statement: “Preaching is not to be the sum total of the activity, nor even necessarily the most important aspect of the assembly.” The article went on to suggest that one of the greatest problems in our churches is that we spend too much time preaching. — What nonsense!

Our Lord's last great command is — “*Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel.*” **This was Paul's dying charge to Timothy** — “*Preach the*

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

Word.” And preaching was the one business of the great apostle’s life. He wrote, “*Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel.*” **God calls men, whom he has gifted and qualified for the work, to preach the gospel. He sends them forth into the world for this one purpose. And he gives but one reason for doing so.** — “*It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*”

GOSPEL PREACHING VITAL

1st — **I want to emphasize the fact that, according to this Book, gospel preachers are vital.** All who know the gospel of God’s free and sovereign grace in Christ appreciate those who preach it; but very few, I fear, understand that the preaching of the gospel is **absolutely vital to their souls.** This is the ascension gift of the exalted Christ to his church (Ephesians 4:8-11). Not only is it true that God sends his Word to heal his elect and to deliver us from our deserved destruction (Psalm 107:20), it is also true that **all God’s works of grace in chosen, redeemed sinners are accomplished by the ministry of the gospel.**

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

If God speaks to you, if God speaks to any sinner's heart, if God teaches any man anything, if God reveals anything to any of us, he does it through the instrumentality of gospel preaching. — Is gospel preaching really that important?

Let the Word of God alone decide the issue. The Scriptures plainly tell us that the preaching is absolutely necessary...

- for **faith** in Christ (Romans 10:17),
- for **the new birth** (James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23-25),
- for **understanding** in the Word of truth (Acts 8:30-31),
- for the **edification** of God's saints (Ephesians 4:8-16).

Without the preaching of the gospel, there is no possibility of salvation, sanctification, spiritual growth, spiritual direction, or spiritual stability.

God did not give his church the gift of the ministry for nothing. Gospel preaching is not an optional add-on, but a vital necessity to the worship of God. This ascension gift of Christ is not something a person

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

may choose to avail himself of or despise without consequence. If God's people could get along without pastors and teachers to guide them in and with the Word of truth, he would not have given them.

400 SILENT YEARS

There was a time when God did not speak for four hundred years. His last word in the Old Testament was given by the prophet Malachi. After that, God sent no prophet into the earth. No angel was sent from heaven. No vision was granted. No word was spoken from the throne of God to anyone upon the earth. **What was the result?**

Israel had the law and prophets. The Lord had given them revelation after revelation for two thousand years. Throughout their long history, they alone had been given the Word and worship of God. God sent his prophets to Israel in abundance, and to Israel alone. Surely, that would be enough. Having the written Word of God would surely hold the nation in

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

a steady path. Surely, there would be no need for a mere man to lead the nation in the knowledge and worship of God. Surely, they did not need a man to instruct them in the ways of God.

Think again. — **After four hundred years of silence, after four hundred years of men and women acting as their own prophets, the worship of Israel degenerated into utter abomination.** Oh, no, they did not turn to the idols of the Gentiles. They did worse. They **turned the law and ordinances of God into idolatry! Without the preaching of the gospel you cannot know God, hear from God, worship God, or walk with God.**

GOD'S GIFT

2nd — **Gospel preachers are God's gift to his church in this world.** In **Jeremiah 3:15** God promised his church, “*I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.*” — **A faithful, God-given pastor, a pastor according to God's own**

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

heart, is a man who feeds the flock of God. — He does not fleece the sheep, beat the sheep, use the sheep, or abuse the sheep. He feeds the sheep! His life work is the business of feeding the people of God; and he gives himself to his work ardently.

Those men God gives to his church as pastors feed the church of God with knowledge and understanding. — **Those who are called of God to feed his people have a God-given knowledge of divine truth and a God-given understanding of the needs of his people in this world, and they feed them accordingly.**

In these dark, dark days, the church of God has suffered much abuse at the hands of unfaithful, self-seeking, self-serving pastors, who make merchandise of men's souls and handle the Word of God deceitfully. But God promised to give his church pastors who would be faithful to their souls, and he does what he promised.

- When our Lord Jesus Christ ascended up into heaven as the Head of his church, one of his

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

ascension gifts to the church was “*pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*” (Ephesians 4:11-12).

- These men are **the angels of God** to his churches (Revelation 1:16-20). They are heaven-sent messengers of grace and truth.

Alright, let's read my text and see if I can make good on what I have said thus far. — (Romans 10)

(Romans 10:1-17) “Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. ⁽²⁾ For I bear them record that **they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.** ⁽³⁾ For **they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.** ⁽⁴⁾ For **Christ is the end of the law** for righteousness to everyone that believeth. ⁽⁵⁾ For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING*Romans 10:15*

shall live by them. ⁽⁶⁾ But **the righteousness which is of faith** speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (That is, to bring Christ down *from above*;) ⁽⁷⁾ Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (That is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) ⁽⁸⁾ But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, **the word of faith, which we preach**; ⁽⁹⁾ That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ⁽¹⁰⁾ For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ⁽¹¹⁾ For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. ⁽¹²⁾ For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. ⁽¹³⁾ For **whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved**. ⁽¹⁴⁾ **How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?** And

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

how shall they hear without a preacher? (15)

And **how shall they preach, except they be sent?** As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! (16) But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? (17) **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.**”

Read verse 15 again.

(Romans 10:15) “And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”

BEAUTIFUL FEET

If ever you come to see that the preaching of the gospel is absolutely vital to your soul, vital to your eternity bound sons and daughters, you will

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

understand the meaning of Paul's words in my text. The words of our text are an abbreviated quotation of **Isaiah 52:7-10.**

(Isaiah 52:7-10) “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! ⁽⁸⁾ Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion. ⁽⁹⁾ Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. ⁽¹⁰⁾ The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.”

Proposition: Here the prophet of God describes the attitude that ought to prevail in the hearts of God's

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

saints towards those men who are sent of God to preach the gospel to them.

THE PICTURE

The picture is of a city in captivity which begins to rejoice as she hears the sound of an army coming across the mountains to deliver her. The church of God's elect is by nature in captivity, taken captive by Satan, held in the bondage of sin, and shut up under the curse of God's holy law. **God's servants are an army of men, coming over the mountains, proclaiming deliverance by our great God and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, and they are highly valued by those who know their need of deliverance by Christ.** Those men and women who have heard and experienced the salvation of God in Christ cherish the men who are sent of God to proclaim deliverance to their hearts. God's servants are "*watchmen.*"

THY WATCHMEN

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

3rd — **Understand that gospel preachers are divinely appointed watchmen over your souls.**

God's servants are watchmen upon the walls of Zion – “*Thy watchmen!*” (Ezekiel 3:17-18; 33:7-16; Hebrews 13:7, 17)

(Ezekiel 3:17-18) “Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. **(18)** When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.”

(Ezekiel 33:7-16) “So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. **(8)** When I say unto the wicked, O wicked *man*, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity;

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING*Romans 10:15*

but his blood will I require at thine hand. ⁽⁹⁾

Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. ⁽¹⁰⁾ Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins *be* upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?

⁽¹¹⁾ Say unto them, **As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?** ⁽¹²⁾

Therefore, thou son of man, say unto the children of thy people, **The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression: as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turneth from his wickedness; neither shall the righteous be able to live for his righteousness in the day that he sinneth.**

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

(13) **When I shall say to the righteous,** *that* he shall surely live; if he trust to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousnesses shall not be remembered; but for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it.

(14) Again, **when I say unto the wicked,** Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right; (15) *If* the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die. (16) None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live.”

(Hebrews 13:7) “Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of *their* conversation.”

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

(Hebrews 13:17) “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that *is* unprofitable for you.”

- God places the watchmen where he wants them.
- If the watchman fails to faithfully proclaim the Word of God, God will require the blood of men at his hands. — Such watchmen are themselves lost men (1 Corinthians 9:16).
- But if the watchman faithfully proclaims to men the Word of God, if he faithfully preaches the gospel of Christ, he has delivered his own soul, even if those to whom he preaches refuse to hear him (Acts 20: 26-27).

The very fact that God has placed watchmen upon the walls of Zion implies that you for whose souls we watch are in immediate, constant danger.

- The wrath of God is upon you who are without Christ.

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

- Satan, as a roaring lion seeks to devour you who do not believe on the Son of God.
- The snares of Satan, the wiles of the devil, are real! — The cares of the World! — The Deceitfulness of Riches! — The Temptations to Evil!

False brethren, false prophets, and false doctrine arise from within the church; and by these things Satan seeks to divide and conquer.

- 1 Corinthians 11:19
- Ephesians 4:8-16

It is the watchman's business, as he cares for your soul, to unmask you, expose your sin to you, and point you to Christ (Song of Solomon 5:7).

(Song of Songs 5:7) “The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.”

SEE EYE TO EYE

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

4th — **All of God's watchmen see eye to eye.** — *"They shall see eye to eye."* Because they see eye to eye every watchman in Zion says the same thing. We all have the me message. The watchmen all see eye to eye. — They all preach the same gospel.

- They are watchmen by whom the Lord comforts his people, his redeemed, by whom he makes wasted souls fruitful.
- They are watchmen by whom — *"The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God."*

Look again at the prophet's words in Isaiah 52:7. — **By divine inspiration Isaiah speaks as the representative of God's church.** — *"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!"*

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

Obviously, these words do not apply to every man who calls himself a preacher and claims to come in the name of the Lord. False prophets, preachers of free-will, works religion, are not beautiful or desirable, for they do not bring good news. They are not to be treated with respect, but with contempt. They are not to be received, but shunned. **Isaiah tells us plainly who those preachers are whose feet are beautiful, whose coming is desirable to the church of God.** They are the men who are sent of God to preach the everlasting gospel of his free, sovereign, saving grace in Christ. And that is exactly what God the Holy Ghost tells us again in Romans 10:15.

Zion's watchmen, gospel preachers bring "good tidings!" — They bring good tidings from the heart of God to the hearts of needy sinners, declaring that **righteousness is established** and **redemption is accomplished** for all who believe by the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 10:4; Hebrews 9:12).

They publish "peace!" — God's servants never tell helpless sinners to make peace with God. How can a

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

traitor, a rebel, a felon make peace with the sovereign he has offended? If peace is made it must be made by the sovereign. God's servants proclaim that **peace has been made for sinners** by the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Isaiah 40:1-2).

(2 Corinthians 5:18-21) “And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; ⁽¹⁹⁾ To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. ⁽²⁰⁾ Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. ⁽²¹⁾ For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

(Isaiah 40:1-2) “Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. ⁽²⁾ Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.”

They bring “good tidings of good!” — God's preachers do not offer good advice. They proclaim good news.

- Justice is satisfied!
- Atonement is made!
- Redemption is finished!
- Sin has been put away!
- God is reconciled!
- God forgives sin!
- God accepts sinners!
- God is merciful to the guilty!
- God saves graciously!

God freely receives sinners as objects of his everlasting love through faith in the blood and righteousness of his dear Son, the sinner's Substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ! (Romans 3:19-28).

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

They publish “salvation!” — Gospel preachers do not tell helpless, depraved, dead sinners what they must do to save themselves. **We publish salvation, salvation purposed by God, purchased by God, and performed by God!** We proclaim to the helplessly lost sons of Adam how that God sovereignly saves his elect by grace alone for the glory of his own great name, by blood atonement, perfect righteousness, and effectual power (Psalms 65:4; 110:3; Romans 5:12-21; Ephesians 1:3-14; 2:1-10).

They say “unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!” — Every man who is sent of God as a messenger of grace to needy sinners proclaims, in clear and unmistakable terms, the glorious, absolute, and universal sovereignty of God — in creation (Genesis 1:1), — providence (Romans 8:28; 11:36) — and grace (Romans 9:11-23). — “*Our God is in the heavens; he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased*” (Psalm 115:3). — “*Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places*” (Psalm 135:6). Every message from every

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

faithful gospel preacher sets forth the glorious sovereignty of God.

Any man who does not preach these things is not sent of God and must not be received, heard, or aided in any way by God's church (2 John 9-11).

Any man who does preach these things is to be heard and received by the church of God and treated as the angel of God among them. He is God's messenger.

Robert Hawker observed, “What glorious tidings of salvation must they be, when the very feet of those who bring them, are accounted by the Lord himself to be beautiful!” **Truly, this is indeed good news from a far country to the soul that hears the joyful sound and knows, by heart-felt experience, that God our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ “reigneth!”** He reigns over all; and now we delight that it is so and rejoice that he reigns in and over our affections. This is “*joy unspeakable and full of glory.*”

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

Not only are the feet of God's servants beautiful in the eyes of those who hear the good news of gospel grace from their lips, **the Lord Jesus himself holds the feet of his servants, those men he has sent out to publish salvation, in high honor as beautiful, so much so that he stoops to bathe them** (John 13:3-5).

(John 13:3-5) “Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; ⁽⁴⁾ He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. ⁽⁵⁾ After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded.”

CHRIST OUR WATCHMAN

As I read these words in Isaiah 52 and Romans 10, I cannot help thinking of our blessed Redeemer, he who is the great Watchman over our souls.

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

- How beautiful his feet are, when we behold him coming over the mountains of sin in our nature, publishing peace in his blood!
- How beautiful his feet are in our eyes, as we see him on Mount Calvary, with his feet nailed to the cursed tree for us and for our salvation!
- Truly, our Lord Jesus Christ is the unequalled pattern of everything good, lovely, and beautiful!

HIGHLY ESTEEMED

5th — **God's servants are to be highly esteemed in love for their work's sake and conscientiously obeyed as they that watch for your souls** (1 Thessalonians 5:11-13; Hebrews 13:7, 17) — *“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings!”*

Many mountains are in the way that must be crossed by the man God sends to preach the gospel.

- Inward Corruption!

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

- Our Own Evil hearts!
- The Opposition of False Brethren!
- The Opposition of Those They Serve!
- False Religion!

Yet, God's servants are men whose feet are twice described in the Book of God as "beautiful." Their feet are referred to, instead of their whole body, as being beautiful. — Why? Their feet are defiled, yet beautiful.

- Though gospel preachers are themselves only sinful men saved by the grace of God, **they are beautiful as the messengers of grace!**
- Their feet are shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.
- With their feet they run to and fro from place to place preaching the gospel (Revelation 14:6, 8). — Feet are instruments of travel and labor!

Every faithful servant of God ought to be honored by the church of God, by those for whom he labors as the servant of God (Galatians 4:14-15 —

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

“Received as the angel of God, even as Jesus Christ.”
Philemon 19)

(1 Thessalonians 5:11-13) “Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do. **(12)** And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; **(13)** And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. *And* be at peace among yourselves.”

Those who oppose God's servants and fight against them oppose God and fight against him.

- 1 Samuel 8:7
- Numbers 16:1-35
- *“Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.”* (1 Chronicles 16:22; Psalm 105:15).

Illustration: *2 Kings 2:23-24*

GIVE ACCOUNT

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

6th — **There is a day coming when every watchman must give account** (Hebrews 13:17).

- Not to You!
- Not to Church Councils!
- Not to the Denominational Board!
- But to God!

I will soon give account to God of what I have done (Preached).

Illustration: *The Preacher and The Jeweler*

I will soon give account to God of every soul to whom he has sent me.

- For some of you I will give account with joy.
- For some of you I will give account with grief!

(Acts 20:26-27) “Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I *am* pure from the blood of all *men*. ⁽²⁷⁾ For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.”

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

Amen.

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

1 Isaiah 52:1-15

1 Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

2 Shake thyself from the dust; arise, *and* sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.

3 For thus saith the LORD, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed without money.

4 For thus saith the Lord GOD, My people went down aforetime into Egypt to sojourn there; and the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.

5 Now therefore, what have I here, saith the LORD, that my people is taken away for nought? they that rule over them make them to howl, saith the LORD; and my name continually every day *is* blasphemed.

6 Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore *they shall know* in that day that I *am* he that doth speak: behold, *it is* I.

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

8 Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion.

9 Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

10 The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

11 Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean *thing*; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.

12 For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel *will be* your rereward.

13 Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high.

GOD'S GREATEST BLESSING

Romans 10:15

14 As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

15 So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for *that* which had not been told them shall they see; and *that* which they had not heard shall they consider.