



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

*Isaiah Sermon Series*

*Supports Session 3: God Promises*

*Sermon Title: "Really Good News" (Isaiah 10:16–11:16)*

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### Connection to Isaiah 7

In chapter 7, King Ahaz was called to trust in God. The kingdom of Judah hung in the balance and the king was facing external threats that jeopardized the kingdom's very existence. Jerusalem was under attack by the Syrians and Israel. Would Ahaz join forces with Israel and Syria, sell his soul to the Assyrians, or trust God with the future of Judah? Isaiah encouraged Ahaz by asking him to request of sign that God would indeed deliver Jerusalem. Ahaz was faithless, and he would not request a sign, so God gave him the sign of the virgin birth and Isaiah's two sons. From chapters 8–10, Isaiah prophesies about the coming Assyrian invasion and intersperses encouragement about the coming Messiah. This section of Isaiah concludes with not only God's triumph over Assyria, but all nations through His Messiah in chapter 11.

### Introduction/Opening

How will it all end? We watch football games and we can feel the tension that emerges in the fourth quarter. We watch a movie, and we want to know how it will conclude. Some of us want to know the ending so badly, we might even read the last few pages of a book first. We survey history and watch the news, and we wonder what in the world is going on? Is anybody in charge? Is history going somewhere? God is emphatic: history is under His rule. God will emerge victorious in history and over history. Today we consider the promise of the end. God's promises and His purpose give us hope for the present.

### Outline

1. The enormity of God's power makes His promises reliable (10:16-34).
  - a) The reversal of fortunes
  - b) What will God do to Assyria? (see verses 16-19; humbles them)
  - c) What is God promising Israel? (see verses 20-23; purification)
    - i. Real faith (v. 20)
    - ii. Real repentance (vv. 21-22)
    - iii. Real assurance (vv. 24-27)
  - d) How will God's promise affect Assyria? (see verses 27-34; destruction)
    - i. God did all of this in history already.
    - ii. What will God do about the rest of history?

2. The perfections of Christ and His kingdom demand allegiance now (11:1-9).
  - a) From a stump to a Savior (v. 1)
  - b) From stupidity to a Spirit-governed King (v. 2)
  - c) From disregard for justice to a passion for justice (vv. 3-5)
  - d) From curse to new creation (vv. 6-9)
  
3. The future of Christ and His kingdom give us hope in all circumstances (11:10-16).
  - a) Christ's worldwide significance (v. 10)
  - b) Christ's worldwide reclamation project (vv. 11-16)

## **Conclusion**

God's power in history is verifiable. The Assyrians were used by God to accomplish His purpose in judging and purifying His people. After the Assyrians had served their purpose, they were conquered by the coalition of the Babylonians and the Persians. The past is powerful motivation to trust God in the present. God doesn't just rule history; He crafts the details in history. He becomes flesh and skin in the world by sending His Son. Christ comes as the King of history, but He doesn't come to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). Because of Christ's death and triumph, we can be sure that God will complete His reclamation project of making all things new. These promises do not alleviate all of our heartache and hurt, but they give us assurance that our problems are temporary because God's King will establish His Kingdom that will have no end. Submit and trust this King who has laid down His life to secure your future.

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