

**Text: Isa 12.2-3, Ex 15.1**

For our baptismal service today, I want to talk about

*The Joy of Salvation*

What is the joy of salvation?

It is the joy of deliverance from sin and its consequences. It is the joy that comes from being rescued. It is the joy that comes from someone stepping in the breach and doing for you what you could not do for yourself.

In the history of Israel, as you know, Moses arrived in Egypt to free his people from their bondage. After “a protracted negotiation” Moses led Israel out of Egypt when God sent the Death Angel to slaughter the first-born of Egypt.

The people hurried off into the night, they witnessed the pillar of fire leading them, everything beyond their hopes and dreams ...

Until they heard in the background the noise of a pursuing army. Their joy turned to fear.

Then came the realization that God and Moses had led them into a dead end, beside the Red Sea and Pharaoh was bearing down on them. It is not surprising that they cried out,

Ex 14.11 Then they said to Moses, “Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt?”

But you know the story, the Lord opened a way through the Sea and they were all saved.

Afterwards, Moses led the people of Israel in a song celebrating the deliverance. We will look at a part of that at the end of the message.

For the joys of salvation, though, I want to turn to Isaiah the prophet.

Of course, Isaiah prophecies much *against* sin. He is well known for his rebuke of king and nation.

But there is also joy. We are going to think about four names in Isaiah that lead to joy:

Immanuel  
 Maher-shalal-hash-baz  
 Shear-jashub  
 and Isaiah himself.

## I. Immanuel (Isa 7.14)

Isa 7.14 “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.

- A. Setting: the rebuke of Ahab
- B. Sign: the child
- C. Significance “God with Us”

Salvation means that man can enter a relationship with God.  
 This is done through *Immanuel*, our Lord Jesus Christ.

## II. Maher-shalal-hash-baz

Isa 8.3-4 So I approached the prophetess, and she conceived and gave birth to a son. Then the LORD said to me, “Name him Maher-shalal-hash-baz;<sup>4</sup> for before the boy knows how to cry out ‘My father’ or ‘My mother,’ the wealth of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be carried away before the king of Assyria.”

- A. Meaning: “hurry hurry, booty booty”
 

This would seem a strange source of joy!
- B. Prophecy: removal of the enemies of Israel (Damascus and Samaria)
- C. Salvation: God removes the accuser of the brethren, strips him of his power in the son he sent

## III. Shear-jashub

Isa 7.3 ¶ Then the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out now to meet Ahaz, you and your son Shear-jashub, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool, on the highway to the fuller’s field,

- A. Shear-jashub means “a remnant shall return”
- B. The boy is a symbol of hope; God would save

C. From hopelessness, comes hope

## IV. Isaiah

Isa 1.1 ¶ The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz concerning Judah and Jerusalem, which he saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

A. Isaiah means “salvation of Yah”

B. Sent to proclaim the light of salvation through the reigns of four kings

C. Celebrated in Isa 12.

### 1. The song of salvation 1-3

Isa 12.1-3 ¶ Then you will say on that day, “I will give thanks to You, O LORD; For although You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, And You comfort me.”<sup>2</sup> “Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the LORD GOD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.”<sup>3</sup>  
 ¶ Therefore you will joyously draw water From the springs of salvation.

2. Note the phrase “The LORD GOD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation”

a. Compare the song of Moses, at the Red Sea

Ex 15.2 “The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; This is my God, and I will praise Him; My father’s God, and I will extol Him.

b. Compare another song, sung at the dedication of the second temple under Ezra<sup>1</sup> (and other occasions)

Ps 118.14 The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.

<sup>1</sup> Warren W Wiersbe, *Be Comforted* (Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books, 1996), 42.

3. The gospel starts with judgement of sin (as Isaiah prophesied), but it ends in deliverance from sin because the Lord took the judgement on himself

Isa 12.4-6 And in that day you will say, "Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name. Make known His deeds among the peoples; Make *them* remember that His name is exalted."<sup>5</sup> Praise the LORD in song, for He has done excellent things; Let this be known throughout the earth.<sup>6</sup> Cry aloud and shout for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

### Conclusion:

Baptism is a time of joy. Jesus took the death blow for us. We join ourselves to him in his death.

Jesus rose to an everlasting life. We rise to live for him and one day to walk with him in heaven.

The Joy of Salvation