

**RUN TO THE KING WHO REIGNS WITH JUSTICE!**

Pastor David O'Dowd

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**Only through his Son will God reign with justice on the earth.**

**ONE: God stretches out his hand in discipline to his people.**  
**Isaiah 9.8-10.4**

Cf., 9.12b, 17b, 21b; 10.4b *for...his hand is still stretched out*

**TWO: God stretches out his hand in judgment on those who arrogantly use the power he gives them to discipline men and nations.**

**Isaiah 10.5-34**

Cf., 10.5 *Assyria, the rod of my anger...against a godless nation I send him....*10.7 *But he does not so intend...but it is in his heart to destroy;*  
10.15 *Shall the axe boast over him who hews with it*

**THREE: In Messiah Jesus God stretches out a highway home for all who will flee the foolish arrogance of man.**  
**Isaiah 11.1-16**

10.17 *The light of Israel will become a fire, and his Holy One a flame...;*  
10.20 *..Jacob will no more lean on him who struck them; 11.1ff. ...a shoot from the stump of Jesse...shall bear fruit...the Spirit of the LORD...wisdom and understanding...counsel and might...knowledge and the fear of the LORD....the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. Matthew 3.11-12 ...He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire...*

11.16 *And there will be a highway from Assyria...*

**Isaiah 55:7** let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>ESV</sup>

**Interact with Isaiah 9.8-11.16 with these thoughts/questions:**

1. Given that God is so committed to justice, righteousness and mercy (cf., Isa 9.7; 10.1-3; 11.1-5), why do you think the church has so often defined “salvation” more narrowly as if it was mostly about personal forgiveness from God and “good behavior” in a more individualistic way?
2. Given that God disciplines his people, Israel, severely (9.8-10.4) do you think God is disciplining his church in America? If he is, why, how & how should we be responding?
3. *Interact with:* Disobedience tends to flow from our failing to fellowship with the Father, Son & one another in light of the costliness to God of his grace toward us in Christ.
4. *Interact with:* Our legalism [with its accompanying looking down on “sinners” in the church and beyond] flows from our failure to apply God’s holiness and instructions to ourselves as severely as he does.
5. Respond in prayer to the glories of God’s Christ as revealed in Isa 11.1-9.