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

ONE: God stretches out his hand in discipline to his people. *Isa 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 & nations. *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?*

- The foolishness of both secularism and Christ-less religion...

THREE: In Messiah Jesus God stretches out a highway home for all who flee the foolish arrogance of man. *Isa 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...*

- A. God's Servant Son in the fullness of the Spirit **perfectly delights** in the LORD and **judges righteously.** *11.1-5*
- He has the *wisdom and understanding* to govern rightly *Isa 11.2*
 - He has the *counsel and power* to win every battle *Isa 11.2*
 - He has the *knowledge and fear* of YHWH to shepherd our hearts to his Father. *Isa 11.2*
 - Because his affections are on his Father he is clothed in *righteousness and faithfulness.* *Isa 11.3*

B. God's Servant Son **undoes the brokenness** that stems from our rebellion. *11.6-9*

- He halts the hostilities *v.6*
- He makes our natures new *v.7*
- He removes the curse *v. 8*
- In Him the knowledge of the LORD fills the earth *v. 9*

C. God's Servant Son **gathers from all the earth** all who run to the beauty of his holiness. *vv. 10-16*

- Old jealousies are replaced by our jealousy for King Jesus!

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

FOUR: God's holy Son, reigning amidst his church, spreads joy in all the earth. *Isaiah 12.1-6*

- As there was singing at deliverance from Egypt, this day we sing!
- Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel!

Interact with Isaiah 11-12 with these thoughts/questions:

1. *Interact:* Postmodern secularists are foolish when they fail to face the reality that without God and his intervening judgments the powerful always rule the weak; that's just the way things are, so we may as well quit pretending.
2. *Interact:* Christ-less/cross-less religion is foolish, for God in his holiness and power will judge every one of us with justice, removing us from his presence forever; that's reality; so mere spirituality offers no hope either.
3. Thomas Chalmers wrote (<http://www.newble.co.uk/chalmers/comm9.html>) that merely pointing out the world's weakness and foolishness free the human heart from wrong loves. He speaks of *the expulsive power of a new affection*. What things in Isa 11-12 can stir new affection for God's anointed Son?
4. What's gone wrong when a believer in Christ is not living in joy in Christ?