

Theme: God invites us to turn from the idols of this world which can never really satisfy, and to come to Him and receive that which fully satisfies the hunger and thirst of our souls.

I. Intro – World of Coke & Pocari Swet

- A. Our trip to World of Coke - pretty silly
- B. Big production for flavored carbonated sugar water
- C. But thirst & hunger are powerful motivators
- D. Story of thirst on Okinawa
- E. Picture of Pocari Sweat
- F. What can slake our true thirst? Satisfy our hunger?

II. A Call to Come

- A. A strong call to come (v1-2)
 - 1. Ah, you who are thirsty - come to true water (v1)
 - 2. Note repetition of 'come'; also 'listen'
 - 3. This feast is free! (v1) - paid by Servant (Is 53)
 - 4. False feasts (v2)
 - 5. This is idolatry in all its forms (Chap 41ff)
 - 6. The true feast that satisfies the soul (v2)
- B. A firm promise to those who come (v3-4)
 - 1. If you listen and come - you will live (v3)
 - 2. I will make a covenant with you - hesed (v3)
 - 3. A covenant based on Servant (vv3-5)

- a. Note shift to 'him', then to singular 'you'
- b. Note call to lead Gentiles - Servant
- c. Like Isaiah 49:7

III. A Call to Repent

- A. A call to repent and seek the Lord (vv6-7)
 - 1. Note both turn from & turn to - repent, believe
 - 2. Note surety of God's mercy, abundant pardon
 - 3. Note urgency - while He may be found
- B. Why we need to repent - contrasting man & God
 - 1. Ways, thoughts - contrast, chiasm (vv7-9)
 - 2. Repent, for ways/thoughts not like God's
 - 3. An immeasurable distance - heaven & earth (v8-9)
 - 4. Assurance of God's mercy (v7, 10-11)
 - 5. Great encouragement - God's powerful Word!
 - 6. Rain powerful - many things - also God's Word!
 - 7. God's Word able to soften hard hearts, change, give life!

IV. A Glorious Future

- A. A future of joy and peace (v12)
- B. A future of obstacles removed - exiles return (v12)
- C. Creation celebrates consummation! (v12; Rom 8:18-21)
- D. A future free from the curse (Rom 8:18-21; v13)

E. Glorifying God and enjoying Him - forever! (v13)

V. Applying the Word

A. Do we see the great gulf between God and us?

1. His ways are not our ways!
2. His thoughts are not our thoughts!
3. This is true of all of us - not someone else
4. God calls for us to repent & turn to Him

B. Do we turn to other sources for satisfaction?

1. Where do I try to find deepest satisfaction?
2. Idols of money, prestige, sex, entertainment, friends?
3. Do we see these will never truly satisfy?
4. Look to Christ for true, deep, lasting satisfaction!

C. Do we see the power of God's Word?

1. Do we see it can change us? Our desires?
2. Do we regularly receive God's Word?
3. No Word = seek satisfaction from idols
4. Receive God's powerful Word!
5. Speak God's powerful Word to others!
6. More powerful than false food & drink!

D. Communion - Come, eat and drink!!

1. Come to the meal of inestimable worth!

2. Come - this meal is free!

3. Come to the meal that appears simple

4. Come - this meal satisfies our soul

5. Come to the meal that is a foretaste of the Great Supper

Invitation to the Feast

Isaiah 55:1-13

Advent readings

December 6, 2009

Communion

2 Corinthians 13:14

This is what the LORD says-- the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel-- to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and rise up, princes will see and bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."
Isaiah 49:7

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.
Romans 8:18-21