4/12/26
Sunday 1st

God's Unwavering Covenant

Isa 54:1-10

Because God gave us the Gospel our life has been freed from curses. He has changed our identity to have nothing to do with hell eternally, and He has completely liberated us from the fundamental problems of mankind. "There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." (Rom 8:1-2) This is the word that concludes the salvation that we received. We must understand that our salvation includes the command to proclaim this Gospel to other people and save them. Last Thursday's evangelism meeting was a meaningful opportunity to confirm the grace God is showing to the disciples who continue evangelism. May we have the grace to repay our Lord Jesus Christ, who saved us, by participating in evangelism.

1. **God's Unwavering Covenant**
    1) Even today may it be the worship where you receive the word. The specific word that comes upon you moves the Christ within you. The act of building the altar of confessing the covenant is important, and the prayer and worship offered there, along with the Word you receive, will lead your life. Those who live a life centered on worship and the Word will all live the journey of the covenant.
    2) Those who have heard of the principle of this covenant from childhood can still live lives like Joseph, Samuel, and David, while those who come to it in later years will live lives like Moses or Paul. It does not matter when one comes to it, because the authority of the Word is God's authority, and therefore it is not influenced by circumstances, conditions, or the environment. Everything in life depends on whether or not one receives the Word. You can consider that your entire life depends on whether or not this continues. Therefore, there is no reason to blame others.
    3) The title of today's message comes from verse 10, "For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you. This is God's powerful promise.
    4) It is generally believed that the prophet Isaiah lived about 150 years before Babylon's captivity. However, even today Isaiah continues to proclaim the word based on the events that arose during the Babylonian captivity. Verse 7, "For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you." Verse 8, "In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you," says the LORD, your Redeemer."
    5) Verse 9 uses the Flood of Noah as an analogy. "This is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, and will not rebuke you." Verse 10, "For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you." The Lord promised this.
    6) Verse 1, "Sing, O barren one, who did not bear; break forth into singing and cry aloud, you who have not been in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than the children of her who is married," says the LORD."
    7) Paul quoted this passage in Gal 4:27 This statement comes from the incident that happened between Abraham's wife Sarah and her female servant Hagar. Hagar was pregnant, while Sarah was childless. Quoting verse 1 of this passage, Apostle Paul tells Sarah that although she currently does not have any sons, in God's eyes she will have many more sons; therefore, even though she has no son now, she should cry aloud.
    8) The same applies to verse 1 of today's passage. Expressions such as "you who have never conceived," "you who have never given birth," "you who have never experienced the pains of childbirth," and "you who are a widow" all describe a state similar to that of Sarah. These terms are used because, although she had a husband, she had no children as a result of that marriage. When Israel was taken into captivity in Babylon, they were temporarily separated from God and found themselves in a state of being without a husband; verse 4 describes this as "the shame of your youth" and "the reproach of your widowhood."

9) This describes Israel and God being in a marital relationship, The strongest form of relational expression in the world is marriage. Marriage to God is different from a normal marriage, where divorce is rampant, because it is a one-sided marriage initiated by God. As long as God does not change His mind, this marital relationship can never be broken. Mankind has no role to play in this marriage. It is simply a matter of receiving His grace and blessings.
10) Therefore, in verses 7, 8, and 9, He promised, For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you, just as I swore concerning the flood of Noah, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, and will not rebuke you.
11) Therefore, do as it says in verse 2. “Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes.” It is yours. Did I not give it to you?
12) Verse 3, “For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left, and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities. Therefore, break forth into singing and cry aloud. Even if you do not have anything right now, do as I say. This is today's message of the word.
13) These words seem to be addressed to those who are suffering. To those of you who feel as though you have no husband, to those of you who feel as though God is not there, God has spoken His words. Break forth into singing and cry aloud. This is not just any song. Cry aloud. You will have many children, for my answer will be abundant so cry aloud. Cry aloud that you have an eternal Husband, God, and that He is the Lord of Hosts.
14) Cry aloud first. Break forth into singing in advance. Is that not why you are called believers? Believe in it right now. This is the message given to us today. It didn’t matter if he went as a slave. Since he already had the answer, he must have quietly cried aloud and sung to himself, knowing that this was simply part of the process by which God’s plan was being fulfilled. Not a single word of complaint came from his lips because he had God’s eternal and unchanging promise.
15) It was because he had God’s covenant within him, which would never waver, even if mountains were to crumble and hills were to collapse. He had that faith, and he had made that discovery. That is why he remained unshaken no matter what happened. This was the same for Moses and Apostle Paul.
16) We, too, need this covenant. We need this eternal covenant of God. One that will never waver, even if mountains crumble, hills collapse, and the world is turned upside down. Since it has already been given to us, what we need is to discover it. Discovering is a state that occurs when the word enters and opens our spiritual eyes. It doesn't happen any other way. Whether through worship, prayer, deep reflection, or meditation, the methods are as numerous as the Almighty God Himself. No matter what method, the conclusion is always the same. A time schedule in which our eyes are opened, discovering it, and reinterpreting the value of it. This is what we need.