Each One

6-4-23

Isaiah 32:1-2 (NIV)

¹See, a king will reign in righteousness and rulers will rule with justice.

² Each one will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land.

These verses are an OT prophesy revealing Christ and HIS church reigning in this unbelieving world. In verse one, the king is Jesus Christ which was previously revealed in Isaiah C.11. The "Each One" in verse two, refer to the believers that will reign with Christ. The term "Each One" in verse 2 puts an emphasis on the people rather than exclusively on the KING HIMSELF, or Christ HIMSELF. Thus, the "Each One" is talking about us as believers having an assignment which is necessary to carry out Jesus' ministry. Last week we saw where God identified the insanity of our current world. God says, "You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay!" While this is true, God says that EACH ONE of us have an assignment to share truth in this chaos. We come along side, believers and unbelievers, who are distraught, frightened, and hopeless. Thus, Each One of us will be to them as a shelter from the wind, a refuge from the storm, and a stream of water the desert. God encourages us:

Isaiah 44:8 (NIV)

Do not tremble, do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago? You are my witnesses.

As witnesses, Each One of us are asked to cooperate with Christ and step up sharing truth and hope providing stability in this insanity. As believers we truly are a shield against the storm and a cool drink of water in the desert.

John 7:38 (ESV)

Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

People are confused and hurting. As believers our heart goes out to those who are distraught, frightened, and hopeless.

1 Thessalonians 2:7 (ESV)

We were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children.

We come along side and give comfort. We are available like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. Being gentle and available will communicate God's love more than anything else we could ever do. Each One of us knows enough, but we need to care enough to be available. When we care and are available, the Holy Spirit will give us divine opportunities and words to touch the hurting and confused.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (ESV)

And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

Of course, the gospel message is at the forefront, but also the Holy Spirit will give us gentle, caring words to help people to recognize their worth, overcome their fear, and have hope.

Luke 12:6-7 (NIV)

Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

What a powerful comforting truth. Each One of us should confidently share that God who cares for the sparrow, cares infinitely more for us individually. God who cares for the sparrow desires to remove the burdens of shame, guilt, and failure that suffocate us. HE is the God who will guide and provide for us. HE is the God who cares for us, died for us, and has forgiven all our sins. As Each One of us share, we become a shield from the storm and a drink of water in the desert.

Matthew 11:28 (NIV)

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

God's truth destroys Satan's lie. Each One of us is an avenue to share that Jesus alone is the answer. Jesus is all about relationship and the power of the Holy Spirit. Once the Word is received, it becomes an active power in the person's life which brings a change in behavior. We have a great ministry to others empowered by God.

Cooperating with Jesus, we are:

- a shelter from the wind.
- a refuge from the storm.
- streams of water in the desert.
- the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land.

We caringly hold the hurting, fearful, and hopeless by the hand and say, "Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." God loves you!

Don't be discouraged or overwhelmed. We care! God acts!

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.