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Sermon Notes

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The Humble Beginnings of Christ's Glorious Kingdom Isaiah 11:1-16

It is the season of grandiose promises, of soaring visions for a glorious future...

It is the season of a Presidential campaign!!

And the long history of failure, of broken promises and crushing reality doesn't seem to touch the hopes of men and women who look at THIS candidate and assume that he can do everything he is promising

- Woodrow Wilson's pledge in 1916 to keep the US out of WWI... broken by 1917
- Hebert Hoover's pledge in 1928 to end poverty in America... famously put "a chicken in every pot and an car in every garage"... certainly broken by the worst economic depression in the history of our country within one year
- Franklin Roosevelt's pledge in 1932 to maintain balanced budgets and to decrease government spending by 25%... as well as his pledge in 1940 to keep the US out of WWII
- Lyndon Johnson's famous promise to win the war on poverty with his glorious vision of a Great New Society
- Richard Nixon's pledge in 1968 to have a secret plan to get the US out of the Vietnam War
- George H.W. Bush's pledge "Read my lips... no new taxes..."
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Yet for all of that, we still have visions of future glory through the rule of this or that candidate... an end to poverty, a new era of cooperation in politics... an end to Global Warming... etc.

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- Throughout the history of humanity, people have sought for the perfect society, and the perfect government to rule it

- No myth has been as pervasive and powerful as that of Camelot, the legendary kingdom ruled by King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table
- It was portrayed as a perfect kingdom... a righteous king, chosen by God to rule the land
- He was humble and powerful at the same time... able to enforce his will on evil people, but mild and kind to his subjects
- The Knights were chivalrous and mighty... protectors of women and children, friends to each other, skillful in battle but preferring diplomacy

In 1960, a musical entitled “Camelot” captured the hopes of that idyllic society:

The climate must be perfect all the year.
 A law was made a distant moon ago here:
 July and August cannot be too hot.
 And there's a legal limit to the snow here
 In Camelot.
 The winter is forbidden till December
 And exits March the second on the dot.
 By order, summer lingers through September
 In Camelot.
 I know it sounds a bit bizarre,
 But in Camelot... That's how conditions are.
 The rain may never fall till after sundown.
 By eight, the morning fog must disappear.
 In short, there's simply not a more congenial spot
 For happily-ever-aftering than here
 In Camelot.

- The myth of Camelot and the legend of King Arthur are just that... a myth and a legend
- But they show the deep desire all human beings have for a perfectly righteous society led by a perfectly righteous King
- Amazingly... the Scriptures promise us just such a future: a perfect kingdom and a perfect king
 - A world filled with peace and joy and fruitfulness
 - A King reigning in righteousness and justice

I. The Humble Beginning of Christ's Rule (11:1)

vs. 1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

A. Humble Beginning: A Branch From A Stump... Israel like a felled tree

Isaiah 6:13 But as the terebinth and oak leave stumps when they are cut down, so the holy seed will be the stump in the land.

BUT Israel's promise: future restoration & glory

B. Branch: Living image...

1. Small beginnings, but hope for the future (Isaiah 53:1-3)

Isaiah 53:2 "He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground."

2. Branch comes from stump...Messiah truly Jewish

3. Lineage – Jesse (David's humble origins) –kings of Judah fallen on hard times

Ahaz a terribly evil king, as we have already seen... even sacrificed his son in the fire to Molech... after exile, Matthew's genealogy lists 14 generations of "nobodys"

4. "Branch" – fruitfulness (Isaiah 4:2)

Isaiah 4:2 "In that day, the Branch of the Lord will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the pride and glory of the survivors in Israel."

John 15:1,5 "I am the true vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit. Apart from me you can do nothing."

Overall Image: From Israel's weakened state, felled like a tree under the hand of God's judgment, will come the Branch...a living vine

C. Branch is Messiah!! Jeremiah 23:5-6

Jeremiah 23:5-6 "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a king who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days, Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness."

"The Lord Our Righteousness" is perfect title for the coming King... we have no righteousness of our own, but the Branch from the stump of Jesse will give it to us

II. The Divine Power of Christ's Rule (vs. 2-3)

Isaiah 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD

Despite humble origins, yet SUPERNATURAL POWER

A. "Messiah" = Anointed One, oil symbolized Holy Spirit

1. Spirit came on Saul, but left
2. Spirit came on David & stayed...but

Psalm 51:11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

3. Messiah – full endowment with Spirit

Isaiah 42:1 “Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations.”

B. “Seven – fold Spirit” – Rev 1:4-5; Rev 3:1; 4:5

Revelation 1:4 “John, to the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven-fold Spirit before his throne, and from Jesus Christ who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.”

- Spirit of Lord
- Spirit of Wisdom/Understanding
- Spirit of Counsel/Power
- Spirit of knowledge/from the Lord

All wisdom for ruling –

Solomon’s request

The request was well pleasing to the Lord and He lavished on Solomon greater wisdom than any king had ever shown in history... and beside it, lavish gifts of wealth, honor, power, success

But Christ had infinitely greater wisdom than Solomon

Whereas Solomon felt completely unprepared, unsuited, ill-equipped to rule, Jesus has been eternally prepared, suited, equipped and fit for rule

Matthew 12:42 The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here.

1. “of the Lord” = Holy Spirit, 3rd Person of the Trinity

Christ perfectly fulfilled this

Luke 4:1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert

Luke 4:16-18 *He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. ¹⁷ The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me..."*

2. wisdom/understanding spiritually minded

- a. wisdom – knowing God’s character & purposes
- b. understanding – knowing man’s character & purposes

Jesus had a special perception, the ability to see into a man’s heart and know fully what was inside him.

John 2:24-25 *“Jesus... knew all men. He did not need man’s testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.”*

John 1:47-49 *“When Jesus saw Nathaniel approaching, he said of him, ‘Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false.’ ‘How do you know me?’ Nathaniel asked. Jesus answered, ‘I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.’ Then Nathaniel declared, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel.’”*

3. counsel / power

- a. counsel – all his decisions show practical wisdom; the right ends, the right means to the ends
- b. power – authority and power to make His counsel stand firm

Perfect combination in a King: wise counsel, total power

Matthew 28:18 *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”*

Ephesians 1:22 *“God placed all things under His feet, and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church...”*

4. knowledge / fear of the Lord

Proverbs 1:7 *“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”*

The Messiah will know the Lord, and He will know Him as no other man in history

Matthew 11:27 *“No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son, and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him.”*

The cry of Jesus’ heart and the ultimate tragedy of the world

John 17:25 “O Righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee...”

C. Delighting in the Fear of the Lord

vs. 3 “... and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.”

1. His own life pleasure

Jesus deeply enjoyed doing the will of the Father... he delighted in it as someone sitting down to a banquet

John 4:34 “My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work.”

2. What kind of people rule with Him.

Christ only wanted followers who feared the Lord... they would rule with Him

III. The Absolute Justice of Christ’s Rule (vs. 3-5)

Isaiah 11:3-5 He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

A. Human Judgment: Fleshly & Sense-driven

1. Fleshly Motive: earthly gain, power, prestige, personal prejudices

2. Fleshly Methods:

judge by what they see with their eyes, decide by what they hear with their ears

3. Fleshly Manner:

Matthew 20:25 “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.”

“Pomp and circumstance”... flowing robes, trappings of authority, affected manner

4. Fleshly Miscarriages of Justice

“That’s Outrageous”: Reader’s Digest... Tyrone Gamble, October 25, 1997, arrested for a crime he didn’t commit... willingly gave a blood sample for a DNA test; sample not sent ‘till 46 days later (waiting for sample from victim)... 3 months later (Mid-March), lab conclusively showed Gamble to be innocent... BUT County police couldn’t reach State Attorney General until a month later! Finally, in mid-April, SIX MONTHS AFTER THE START, Gamble’s case thrown out... Gamble, a poor man, had sat in jail the whole time

5. again and again, human judges either release real criminals because of bribes or fear; and they punish the innocent to protect the guilty

American Bar Association Report, 2005: Thousands wrongly convicted each year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of suspects unable to afford lawyers are wrongly convicted each year because they are pressured to accept guilty pleas or have incompetent attorneys, the American Bar Association says in a report.

The ABA study points to people like Brandon Moon of Kansas City, Mo., who served nearly 17 years for the rape of an El Paso, woman before DNA tests determined he was not responsible; and Ryan Matthews, a Louisiana man who sat on death row for five years before he was exonerated.

More than 150 people who were convicted in 31 states and the District of Columbia served a total of 1,800 years in prison for crimes they did not commit. All were exonerated due to DNA evidence.

B. Christ's Judgment

Isaiah 11:3-4 He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

1. Not based on sensory input (John2)

John 2:24-25 "Jesus... knew all men. He did not need man's testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man."

2. But based on supernatural wisdom...**RIGHTEOUSNESS**
3. He is no respecter of men, not concerned about their reactions, not afraid of intimidation

Even His own enemies acknowledged this!!

Matthew 22:16 "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are.

C. Righteousness: The Foundation of Christ's Throne

Isaiah 11:5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

Hebrews 1:8-9 "Your throne, O God, will last forever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness..."

1. **FIRST** Righteous motive: The Glory of God

John 5:30 "My judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me."

2. SECOND Righteous motive: The benefit of the poor

vs. 4 ***“He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy and with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.”***

Judah’s judges wickedly oppressed the poor using their positions of power

Isaiah 3:13-15 “The Lord takes his place in court; he rises to judge the people. The Lord enters into judgment against the elders and leaders of his people: ‘It is you who have ruined my vineyard, the plunder from the poor is in your houses. What do you mean by crushing my people and grinding the faces of the poor?’ declares the Lord Almighty.”

Christ will use his position to benefit the true poor...

Matthew 5:3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”

3. Righteous power: The Rod of His Wrath

- a. The WORD of God – “I AM”
- b. Striking the earth
- c. Slaying the wicked – Revelation 19:11-16

Revelation 19:11-16 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

D. Christ, Our Final Judge

John 5:22-23 “Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, ²³ that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.”

Matthew 25:31-32 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Revelation 20:11-12 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small,

standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.

IV. The Perfect Peace of Christ's Rule (vs. 6-9)

A. Human Government – Constant Strife

1. One government striving against another for world domination
2. Within each government, jealous officials strive against each other in turf wars
3. Also strife with nature!!

Genesis 3:17 “*Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you...*”

Romans 8:22 “*We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.*”

Adam would wrestle with the ground for his very existence, and in the end the ground would win; Adam would sink into the dust from which he came

Messiah's Rule – Perfect Peace... *Isaiah 9:6... Prince of Peace; peace with God, peace with neighbors, peace with creation*

B. Interpretation Difficulties... is this the Millennial Kingdom or the Eternal State??

1. Return to earthly Paradise... a literal reign on earth during the Millennium

Millennium itself only mentioned in one section, Rev. 20

Revelation 20:1-3 *And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. ² He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. ³ He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be set free for a short time.*

Revelation 20:4 *I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.*

Literal reign of Christ physically on earth supported perhaps in dozens of places (e.g. “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven...”)

If there is to be a physical reign of Christ on earth, most of the descriptions of that reign will be found in Isaiah's visions

2. literal, but talking about the New Heavens and the New Earth... our eternal state

BUT the passage speaks of infants and children...

It's hard to reconcile that with the New Heaven and New Earth where there is no marriage or procreation

3. Spiritualized: only talking about spiritual salvation

These commentators say this is referring to spiritual fruitfulness under the gospel

The gospel can make former enemies reconciled with each other

Simon the Zealot can be filled with hatred toward the Romans... Matthew the tax-collector can be a wealthy collaborator with the Romans... and when each of them is transformed by Christ, they can be friends forever

C. My View: This is Speaking of the Full Effects of Christ's Reign... Including the Millennial Reign on Earth

1. Predators at peace with their quarry

vs. 6 *"The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf, and the lion and the yearling together..."*

a. intrinsic instincts radically changed from within

b. a picture of total contentment... total peace

2. Problem: impossible apart from a change of nature, a change from within

Jeremiah 13:23 "Can an Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Neither can you do good who are accustomed to doing evil."

The wolf must change its basic nature, or it will still seek to devour the lamb

The lamb also must change its basic nature and welcome the wolf as a partner

With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible

3. Christ's kingdom founded upon the power to transform the heart

The foundation of Messiah's rule is that its subjects will be transformed from the inside; their basic nature will be changed

- a. human governments fail because they can't change the heart
- b. communism failed because it couldn't change the heart
- c. The heart is desperately wicked, and no peace is possible

Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?"

Isaiah 57:21 "There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."

- d. BUT the promise of God in Christ is for a radical transformation from within

Jeremiah 24:7 "I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord..."

Jeremiah 31:33 "I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts."

2 Corinthians 5:21 "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, behold all things have become new."

4. Result: supernatural peace in this new kingdom

vs. 8-9 "The infant will play near the hole of the cobra and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain..."

- a. ancient enemies... the serpents and the seed of woman

Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he will crush your head and you will strike his heel."

- b. spiritual serpent, that ancient dragon will be destroyed totally
- c. physical serpent no longer an enemy (was hijacked for Satan's purposes, now set free!!!)

D. Goal: Habakkuk's vision

Habakkuk 2:14 "The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

V. The Universal Reach of Christ's Rule (vs. 10-12)

Isaiah 11:10-12 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious. ¹¹ In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the sea. ¹² He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth.

A. Banner for the Nations, a Regathering of the Exiles of Israel

1. The “Root of Jesse”, the Branch is Christ
2. Christ’s Kingdom will be universal... not just a Jewish Messiah
 - a. a banner for the NATIONS
 - b. the PEOPLES will rally to Him

Isaiah 49:6 “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those from Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.”

- c. Christ the rallying point... lifted high and exalted He will draw all peoples to Himself

B. Glorious rest!

1. Adam’s toilsome labor is ended... it will be a time of perfect rest

Hebrews 4:9-10 “There remains, then, a Sabbath rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work just as God did from His.”

2. The place of rest itself will be glorious... it will sparkle with a billion colors and shine radiantly

Revelation 21:10-11 “And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.”

C. Jewish restoration

vs. 11 “In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people from Assyria, from lower Egypt, from upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, and from the islands of the sea.

It doesn’t matter how far they’ve been scattered... God still knows where His people are and He will be able to reassemble them in the Kingdom of Christ

It is absolutely astonishing that the Jews are still recognizable as a people... that they still exist and haven’t been assimilated or made extinct

Even though the Roman Empire ceased to exist, the Jews remain. Even after nearly 2,000 years they are still a distinct people. They may be a Russian Jew, or an American Jew, or an Ethiopian Jew, or a Chinese Jew, but they are all still Jews. They even had more reason than most other nations to disappear. They have been hunted down and killed and persecuted in many of the countries they found themselves. If

they had just melted into the rest of the population they would not have sustained so many problems. Yet they remain Jews.

Mark Twain: If the statistics are right, the Jews constitute one quarter of one percent of the human race. It suggests a nebulous dim puff of star dust lost in a blaze of the Milky Way. Properly, the Jews ought hardly to be heard of.... The Egyptians, the Babylonians, the Persians rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greeks and Romans followed and made a vast noise and they are gone; other peoples have sprung up and held their torch high for a time but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now or have vanished. The Jew saw them all, survived them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert but aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jews; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality? --September 1897

Christ will regather the Jews to Himself:

Matthew 23:37-39 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. ³⁸ Look, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹ For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Romans 11:26-27 all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. ²⁷ And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins."

Christ's gospel will transform old jealousies and make the people reconciled with each other:

Isaiah 11:13-16 Ephraim's jealousy will vanish, and Judah's enemies will be cut off; Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah, nor Judah hostile toward Ephraim. ¹⁴ They will swoop down on the slopes of Philistia to the west; together they will plunder the people to the east. They will lay hands on Edom and Moab, and the Ammonites will be subject to them. ¹⁵ The LORD will dry up the gulf of the Egyptian sea; with a scorching wind he will sweep his hand over the Euphrates River. He will break it up into seven streams so that men can cross over in sandals. ¹⁶ There will be a highway for the remnant of his people that is left from Assyria, as there was for Israel when they came up from Egypt.

D. Summary: all God's chosen people from both Gentiles and Jews to be gathered into Messiah's kingdom

vs. 12 "He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth."

VI. Review and Application

A. What We Have Seen:

1. The Humble Beginning of Messiah's Rule: Like a shoot from a stump

2. The Divine Power of Messiah's Rule: The Seven-fold Spirit of God
3. The Absolute Justice of Messiah's Rule: Not fleshly but righteous
4. The Perfect Peace of Messiah's Rule: Heart transformation resulting in eternal peace
5. The Universal Reach of Messiah's Rule: Gentiles rally, Jews regathered

B. How should we then live?

1. Learn not to judge God's work by outward appearance...

Judah was like a stump, cut down by God's judgment... but a small shoot came out; from that shoot came salvation for the world

2. Look forward to the perfect reign of Christ on earth in the Millennium, and in eternity in the New Heaven and New Earth
3. Allow the Seven-fold Holy Spirit of God to saturate your lives as He saturated Christ's life

Mark 1:8 "I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Total saturation in the Spirit... the Spirit of the Lord; the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding; the Spirit of counsel and of power; the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

4. Delight in the fear of the Lord: fear God, keep His commands, submit to his discipline when you rebel... PURE DELIGHT comes from the fear of the Lord
5. Allow His word to transform your very nature... BE SURE YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN
6. Take part in the regathering... of both Jews and Gentiles

Matthew 12:30 "He who is not with me is against me and whoever does not gather with me scatters."