**Isaiah 11:10-16 “And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious.” 11It shall come to pass in that day *That* the Lord shall set His hand again the second time To recover the remnant of His people who are left, From Assyria and Egypt,
From Pathros and Cush, From Elam and Shinar, From Hamath and the islands of the sea.**

**12He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth. 13Also the envy of Ephraim shall depart, And the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, And Judah shall not harass Ephraim. 14But they shall fly down upon the shoulder of the Philistines toward the west; Together they shall plunder the people of the East; They shall lay their hand on Edom and Moab; And the people of Ammon shall obey them. 15The Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt; With His mighty wind He will shake His fist over the River, And strike it in the seven streams, And make men cross over dry-shod. 16There will be a highway for the remnant of His people Who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt.**

 Again tonight, we are back in Isaiah 11, 700 years before Jesus. Last week, we looked at verses 1 – 9. Recall that verse 1 spoke of the rod from the stem of Jesse. We looked at Matthew 1 and traced the family tree of Jesus, from Abraham through Jesse all the way to Jesus. Jesus is the rod from the stem of Jesse, the branch growing from the root. Revelation 5:5 refers to Him as the Root of David… Revelation 22:16 says “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.” It really doesn’t get much clearer than that.

 This week, we start again with the Root of Jesse. David is the son of Jesse. Jesus says, “I am the Root of David.” Look at verse 10 - “And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious.” Romans 3:24-25 says being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation (the Hebrew word Hilastayreon – literally means atoning victim) by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed. Then verses 28-30 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.” Throughout Jesus ministry, He spoke to the Jews and was sought by the Gentiles. The Jews rejected and the Gentiles found hope! **And His resting place shall be glorious.** Where could be more glorious than the right hand of God? Stephen saw Jesus there in Acts 7:55!

 Verse 11 and 12 - It shall come to pass in that day *That* the Lord shall set His hand again the second time To recover the remnant of His people who are left, From Assyria and Egypt, From Pathros and Cush, From Elam and Shinar, From Hamath and the islands of the sea. He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth. This is a future prophecy… it will be accomplished in some future day. Set His Hand – the Lord God will do this. The first time is generally agreed to be the return from Babylon… though there is still debate. This second time, God will recover the Jews from all over. Jesus will be the banner – remember that not all banished returned from Babylon – Jews are scattered all over the world today. God will gather His dispersed of Judah in some future day.

Verse13 Also the envy of Ephraim shall depart, And the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, And Judah shall not harass Ephraim. Ephraim here should be understood as representing Israel. Recall that the 10 tribes of Israel hated Judah and Benjamin. Ephraim was the royal tribe of the Northern Kingdom while Judah was the royal tribe of the Southern. Ephraim had high ambition. Recall, when Gideon conquered the Midianites, how the men of Ephraim rebuked him. Isaiah tells us that, in the day of the return, this envy will disappear! Jews, regardless of tribal affiliation, will be reunited and all enemies of Israel will be cut off.

Verse 14 But they shall fly down upon the shoulder of the Philistines toward the west; Together they shall plunder the people of the East; They shall lay their hand on Edom and Moab; And the people of Ammon shall obey them. This verse shows how quickly the people of God will triumph over the enemies. Jesus will be conqueror of all! Revelation 19 assures us of His victory, with the sharp sword that proceeds from His mouth. The victory of Jesus will be swift and complete. I find great comfort in the fact that Revelation doesn’t speak of Jesus struggling to overcome Satan. Revelation 19:19-20 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. When Jesus comes, it isn’t even going to be close. They will gather to wage war. He will simply speak. They will be slain… just as He spoke the world into existence, He will speak His enemies into submission.

Verse 15 The Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt; With His mighty wind He will shake His fist over the River, And strike it in the seven streams, And make men cross over dry-shod. This river is possibly the Euphrates. The ancient historian Herodotus recounted how the river Euphrates was drained by seven ditches or rivulets by Cyrus, when Babylon was conquered. Cyrus was so angered by the Euphrates blocking his way that he ordered seven ditches dug so the river was diverted – he and his soldiers entered the city “dry shod” meaning – with dry feet. Exodus 14:21, “Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.” God will again cause dry passage by His miraculous wind (shaking His fist). The children of God cross over without getting their feet wet! The Red Sea, the Jordan River, Elijah crossing the Jordan and Elisha crossing back. When God is in it, His people are fully protected.

Verse 16 “There will be a highway for the remnant of His people Who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt”. All obstructions will be removed by God for His people. Just like He provided a way through the Red Sea when Israel came out of Egypt, so He will do again. Isaiah 35:8 says A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray. 1 Corinthians 1:21-25 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. Paul is verifying what Isaiah says in 35:8. The message of Jesus is foolishness to those not called, but wisdom to the called.

Jesus, Savior of the Gentiles, banner to the nations, clears the Highway of Holiness for us, believing His Truth, for us to be with Him in Heaven. Jesus opened Heaven for us that we might live with Him. He paved the Highway with His blood that we might follow in Faith.