

#### PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

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SERIES: Isaiah, Part 2 (Comfort For His People)
TITLE: Program 34 – A Promise Of Deliverance

### **THURSDAY**

### **OPEN**

People who are living in rebellion against God, people who do not like what the Word of God has to say, people who do not believe in absolutes hate people that do. They hate people that say, "This is right and this is wrong." "This is truth and this is a lie." They look at them and they think, "You are bigoted and opinionated". But are they? We'll talk about it today.

### **PART ONE**

When truth, Beloved, stumbles in the streets the righteous make themselves a prey. This is the seventh insight that I want you to see in our study this week, as we look at Isaiah 58, 59 and 60, as we look at what happens when truth stumbles in the streets. (See Isaiah 59:14) Now remember we picked that phrase up from the chapter that we've come to, and that's Isaiah chapter 59. In Isaiah 59, verse 14 and 15 we have this key verse, or this verse that we have used to define what is happening in the book of Isaiah at this time. In this portion of Isaiah, from Isaiah 58 on through 66 we're going to see:



God is going to send a Redeemer. And what we're seeing in 58 and 59 is why He needs to send a Redeemer: Because truth has stumbled in the streets, because they're groping in darkness, because they don't have the light of truth in their lives. And so in verse 14 of Isaiah 59 it says "Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for...," this is the reason, "...[for] truth has stumbled in the street, and uprightness cannot enter." (Isaiah 59:14) I'm sitting down all this time teaching you this second portion of Isaiah because I stumbled; because I fell. I was in the darkness and in a sense, groping through the darkness at my sister-in-law and brotherin-law's, on an Indiana farm, and there was no light. And I thought, "It is so dark out here, and as I walked I set my sight on where I was going, but I didn't look at where I was walking, and I walked right off the edge, landed in a hole and severely broke my ankle. So severely that when I asked the doctor, you know, how bad is this break? He said, "Kay, the next thing would be to lose your foot". Well this is the danger of what is happening in Israel at this time. They are about to cripple themselves. Only God will be able to rescue them. Now when truth stumbles in the streets the seventh point that I want you to get is: The righteous make themselves a prey. Look at it in verse 15. "Yes, truth is lacking...." (Isaiah 59:15) Now I mark "truth" like I mark "believe". It is like a Bible. Or when it says "the Lord has spoken" I draw this little Bible. If you are studying with us what you need to do is, you need to go online if you don't know about it, and we have a free downloadable study guide that will show you how to observe the text, how to discover what God is saying. And then understanding what He's saying, how to interpret it, how to know what He means. And then how you are to live in the light of that truth, or how you need to adjust your thinking. So you can do that by going to preceptsforlife.com. And besides we would love to have you be in communication with us. I love hearing from you. I love hearing where you are, what's going on in your life, and I love knowing if you like going through even this Old Testament. Because so many people



don't know the Old Testament and they don't understand how relevant it is for today. But you can see its relevance right now. You can see it because truth is lacking in our nation. Anyone that gives absolutes or says, "This is right," or "This is wrong," the world doesn't want to hear about it. They don't want anybody to stand up and condemn their lifestyle. They call it "hate speech" today. They call it a crime for us to hold to truth. That means "truth has stumbled in the streets". But that also means that if I'm going to hold to truth it makes me a prey. It makes me vulnerable to those that do not want truth, those that want to change the legislation, those that want to say, "Hey, it's no longer mom and dad; it's no longer husband and wife". Rather, you can't use those terms because it might be man and man having children, not producing them, but adopting them, or woman and woman adopting them and they want us to say their lifestyle is all right, or it's all right for us to be immoral. It is all right for us to have sex outside of marriage. And there are others that would twist and distort the laws. And so when you and I stand we've got to know that we're making ourselves a prey. As I'm teaching this to you, I just got back from England. We had an awesome, awesome time. We work in a 150 countries. We work in 70 languages. So we took some of our supporters that help support this ministry because it's run on the donations of people. Television is made possible because of the gifts of the people, and we really need the gifts, and we really need the help to come along. But people that support this Ministry know that we are all about establishing people in God's Word, as that which produces reverence for God, such reverence that you are willing to stand up against a lie. Well when you go to England and we went to little Sodbury. And little Sodbury is where Tyndale lived. And Tyndale was a tutor in the home of the Walsh's and as he was in that home, they would have dinner and they would invite the clerics and the church was corrupt at that time. They were arrogant and they didn't want the common man to know the Word of God. They wanted to hold them in bondage. And Tyndale sat at that table, and I've sat at that



table, and he said, "If God pleases, if God allows there will come a day when the boy behind the plow will know more than you," talking to the clerics. And he gave his life so the truth might stand firm, so that it might not stumble in the streets, because it was stumbling because of the corruption in the church and the arrogance of the church, and they didn't want to give the common man the Word of God in their vulgar, vulgar language. They shouldn't have it. They shouldn't know it. And so they'd go to church and it would all be in Latin and they couldn't understand a thing because they were trying to keep people from the truth. Well you and I have to know that when we stand for truth we're going to become a prey. And so what do you have? You have Tyndale being burned at the stake; burned at the stake. Now first they were to strangle him, but when they went to strangle him the man doing the strangling bungled the job so he was still alive as the flames overtook him, but he was willing to die. But he made himself a prey because truth has stumbled in the streets and he was going to stand for truth. You go to Oxford and of course there are all those colleges, 35 colleges right now at Oxford. But it's not the colleges that make Oxford for me. It's the history. It's the memorial right in the streets to Latimer and Ridley who were burned at the stake because they stood for truth. And Latimer said to Ridley "Cheer up Master Ridley. By the grace of God today we will light a fire that will burn throughout England." So Wycliffe prayed "Lord, open the eyes of the king." Well eventually it was Henry VIII that came up with the Bible and he said that everybody should have the Bible when he is the one that was responsible or tolerated the death of Tyndale. People stood for truth. It was his translation that became the foundation for the King James translation. O Beloved, it is time for us to see that we must earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. (See Jude 1:3) It says, "... Now the LORD saw, and it was displeasing in His sight...," and I'm in Isaiah 59, verse 15, the middle of the verse. "...It was displeasing in His sight that there was no justice. And He saw that



there was no man, and...astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him, and His righteousness upheld Him. He put on righteousness like a breastplate...." And it says, "...And [put on] a helmet of salvation on His head; ...He put on [His] garments of vengeance for clothing and wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle. According to their deeds, so He will repay, wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies; to the coastlands He will make **recompense.**" (Isaiah 59:15-18) What do you see? What's our next point? Well number eight is this: That God is displeased. God is displeased when truth stumbles in the streets. And only God in His covenant grace can deliver. So it says, the Lord saw and it was displeasing in His sight that there was no justice. And there was no justice because truth had stumbled it the streets. I want you to understand that truth and justice go together. And when you turn away from truth then you have injustice. And so who is going to deliver? God looks and there's no one to intercede, no one to come to the defense. What is God going to do? I'll tell you right after the break.

### **PART TWO**

Welcome back, Beloved. Listen to me carefully. Truth will not always stumble in the street. It displeases God and this is our eighth point: It displeases God when truth is stumbling in the streets. And God is going to do something about it. Only God can deliver. Only God can turn the situation around and it's all going to be by His grace. But woe be to those who want to live in darkness, who want to live in a lie, who prefer a lie to the truth, who listen to the father of lies, as we talked about in our first session this week. Remember Satan is a liar. He is the father of lies. He's a murderer from the beginning. He does not abide in the truth. John 8:44 tells us all this. Now look at verse 15, the middle of the verse, because this begins our eighth point. All right, now it says, "...Now the LORD saw, and it was displeasing in His sight that there was no justice." (Isaiah 59:15) So



when you see that justice is not going on, you can know not only are you unhappy, but God is unhappy. You say, "Well why doesn't He do something about it? Well He will in His time and in His way. And we're gonna see that because it's our last point in His time. Now verse 16, "...He saw that there was no man, [He] was astonished that there was no one to intercede...." (Isaiah 59:16) I want you to know if you and I are there, we are to intercede. We are to stand for truth. And this is what you see, and this is why it's important to read church history, to understand what God has done down through the ages, to understand that we stand on the shoulders of these people that literally laid down their lives for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ. And they did it because they were interceding for truth, because they were going to be valiant warriors. "...He saw that there was no man, [He] was astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him, and His [uprightness] upheld Him. He put on righteousness like a breastplate...a helmet of salvation on His head...He put on garments of vengeance for clothing [He] wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle." We looked at all that. But now listen, "According their deeds, so He will repay...." (Isaiah 59:16-18) When He dresses Himself for battle, when He dresses Himself for vengeance, when He comes to rescue you can know this, it will be "According to their deeds...Wrath to [the] adversaries, recompense to His enemies; to the coastlands He will make recompense." (Isaiah 59:18) In other words He will go all over the nations, not just Israel, but all over the nations. "So they will fear the name of the LORD from the west and His glory from the rising [to] the sun, for He will come like a rushing stream which the wind of the LORD drives." (Isaiah 59:19) And where is He coming to? "A Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those...," listen carefully, "...who turn from transgression in Jacob,' declares the LORD." (Isaiah 59:20) He's not coming for those that sit there with their arms folded and are not going to change, with those that sit there and say "God would never do that," or for



those that sit there and say, "You're stupid to believe in God". No, He's only coming to deliver "...those who turn from [their] transgression[s] in Jacob...." (Isaiah 59:20) What He's implying is there are some, and the light will come on. There are some who will see the error of his way and when He comes He's coming for those, and He's coming to Zion. He's coming to Jerusalem. It says, "'As for Me, this is My covenant with them,' says the LORD: 'My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring's offspring...." (Isaiah 59:21) In other words, once this new covenant happens, once you get the Spirit, once truth gets into your heart it's going to be in your mouth. It's going to be in the mouth of your offspring. It's going to be in the mouth of the offspring of your offspring, in other words, your great grandkids. That's what He's saying. This is going to be a glorious day and then He tells you how long, "...from now and forever." (Isaiah 59:21) Now when does this new covenant happen? Because what He's showing us is: God is going to deliver. God is displeased and God is going to intercede when truth stumbles in the streets. He's showing you three points under this, under this eighth point. It's all of grace. It's all of God. It's always grace. It's always God. Number two: We can intercede. 'Cause He looks and He says, "Where is someone to intercede?" So number two: You and I can intercede. And we should be interceding and we should be trying to turn others from transgression. The third thing is: It is the promise of covenant yet to be declared in detail in Jeremiah 31. But we're gonna cheat. We're gonna advance in history from Isaiah, from the days of Hezekiah when this is written, and we're going to jump over to the days of Josiah and the final kings. And in Jeremiah chapter 31 this is what we read. He says, "Behold, [the] days are coming...," Jeremiah 31:31, "...when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel...with the house of Judah." (Jeremiah 31:31) He says in verse 33 "...This is the covenant...I will



make with the house of Israel after those days... I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it...I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, "Know the LORD [know the LORD]," for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,' declares the LORD, 'for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." (Jeremiah 31:33-34) This is the covenant. This is the covenant, "...My Spirit which is upon you...My words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth...." (Isaiah **59:21**) In other words, once that truth happens it is going to remain to be so. All right now, what's the next point? What's number nine? Well number nine, if you'll go back to Isaiah chapter 60 is this: Darkness will not prevail. Darkness will not prevail. The darkness that covers the earth will be dispelled. And this is what the whole sixtieth chapter is about. And we're going to look at that in detail tomorrow as we wrap up this week, as we look at the ten things that happen when truth stumbles in the street. (See Isaiah 59:14) But I wanted to make sure that you get this. I wanted to make sure that you understood it, that you saw it, that you had this word of hope. Because listen to what He says, "Arise, [and] shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth...but the LORD will rise upon you and His glory will appear on you." (Isaiah 60:1-2) Darkness will not prevail. We'll look at it tomorrow. Don't miss it.