

God's Power
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“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.” Isaiah 55:10-13

When we think about our God, we know that He is powerful. After all, He is God. As we hear the above words from Isaiah, we are reminded of that power again. We are reminded of how He speaks and it happens. This is just like what we saw at creation, God spoke and it was. “Let there be light.” And there was light. “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together.” And it was so. God is the One who is so powerful that when He speaks, what He says goes.

Of course, in our sin, that isn't always a good thing, is it? After all, when God gave Moses His Law, He said, “Do this and you will live.” If we do what God says, we will live. After all, He has said so. We'll live forever, with Him. But what's the problem? We don't always do what He says, do we? We might think we do most of the time, but the problem is that even 99.99% obedience to that Law, is 100% disobedience. Once we break His Law according to the most miniscule piece of it, we now have broken it. It is as if we have not kept the whole thing. So what does that Word say to us now? “You shall surely die.” “The wages of sin is death.” And so we hear what we deserve. And this applies to absolutely every one of us. We all deserve everlasting death.

But thanks be to God, as He has spoken of His Word here in Isaiah, we see that there is more. There is joy, there is peace, and there is the sign that we shall not be cut off. Jesus is that sign. Jesus is the Word in the body of a man, and as He lived, He lived perfectly in our place. When He died, He suffered what we should suffer. And when God raised Him from the dead, He spoke another word beside, “You shall surely die.” He said, “You shall live indeed. Your sins are forgiven.”

God speaks and when He speaks He does what He says. As you hear that Word then, “Your sins are forgiven,” God speaks through the one whom He calls to speak them. And through that Word He creates that very life of forgiveness in you, so that in Him you may live forever and ever.