

Welcome to Calvary Church, Brighton



Today 15th July 2018 speaker Philip Wells, Full-time Elder.
This morning Isaiah 26,27- "the song of the people of God"

www.calvary-brighton.org.uk

calvary-brighton.sermon.net

Singing the song

"should auld acquaintance be forgot"

"happy birthday"

"Men of Harlech"

– *Men of Harlech, march to glory,*

– *Victory is hov'ring o'er ye,*

=> *a cause*

=> *an inspiration*

=> *taking sides*

=> *relishing victory*



The song of the people of God

Isaiah chapter 26,27 -

- Little Israel, threatened by the nations, but depending on her God

7 verses of this song of the people of God

- A victory song, to inspire
- Take sides

1. walk of faith
2. inward desire
3. the refusal of grace
4. gift of life
5. the finish of the snake
6. the promise of fruit
7. the bringing in of the exiles



The people of God sing #1: faith

We have a city

our city is strong

its people keep faith with the
LORD (v.2,3,4)

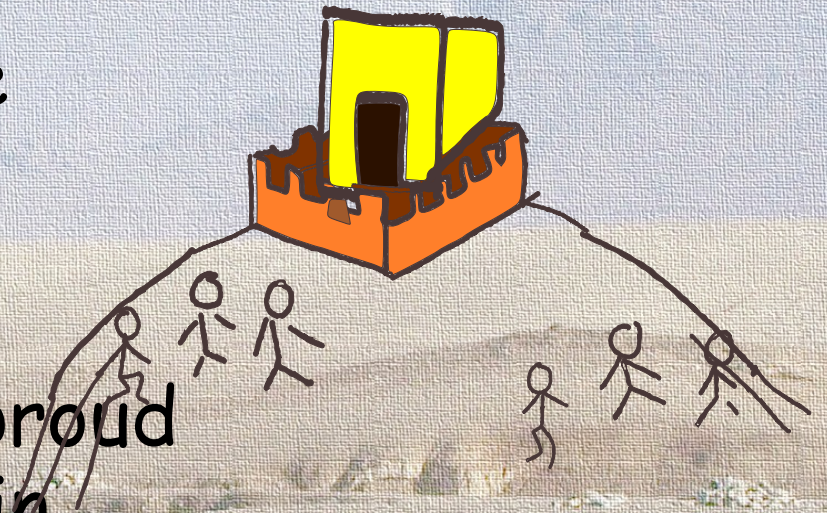
- they have peace x2

- they are not people of the proud
city (v.5), but the poor (v.6) [in
spirit - Matthew 5:3,6]

=> city = community
"weep/rejoice"

=> citizens ... by faith

=> blessed are the poor in spirit



The people of God sing #2: inward desire

As they walk their hearts are in it

- v.7 level, "upright" // righteous (sedeq), mishpat (law)

- ==> at least, walking in God's statutes

wait for you v.8

desire of our [~~heart~~] soul

yearning of soul

seeking of spirit

- ==> NOT an outward-only spirituality

==> repentance = pre-occupation with God ("your name", "your memory", "you")

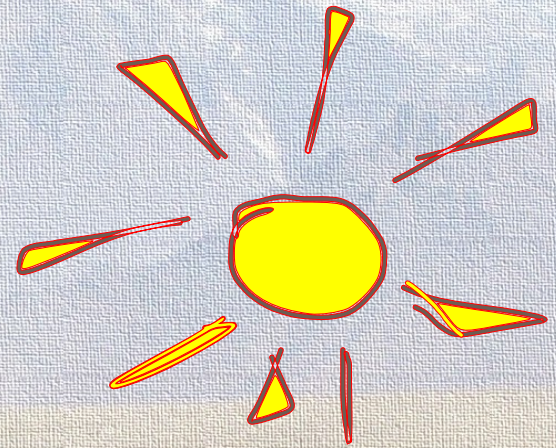


The people of God sing #3: the unappreciated call

God reveals his [mishpat]
judgments (v.9b)

to people of the world

grace/favour is shown to the
wicked v.10



- "common = widespread grace"
- e.g. beauty of creation
- e.g. image of God in people
- e.g. transcendent things like:
music, marriage, poetry, dance ...
- BUT people still do evil
- E.g. Brighton

The people of God sing #4: life from death

All we have done is from him (v.12)

The deadness of serving other gods (v.13)

The deadness of those gods/lords (v.13)

The terminal condition of his people (v.16)

Cannot produce new life (v.18)

Cannot produce salvation (v.18)

Cannot produce world-revival (v.18)

BUT - God brings life

- to his nation (from exile) (v.19)
- resurrection of his people (v.19)
- resurrection of Jesus
- for universal resurrection (v.21)



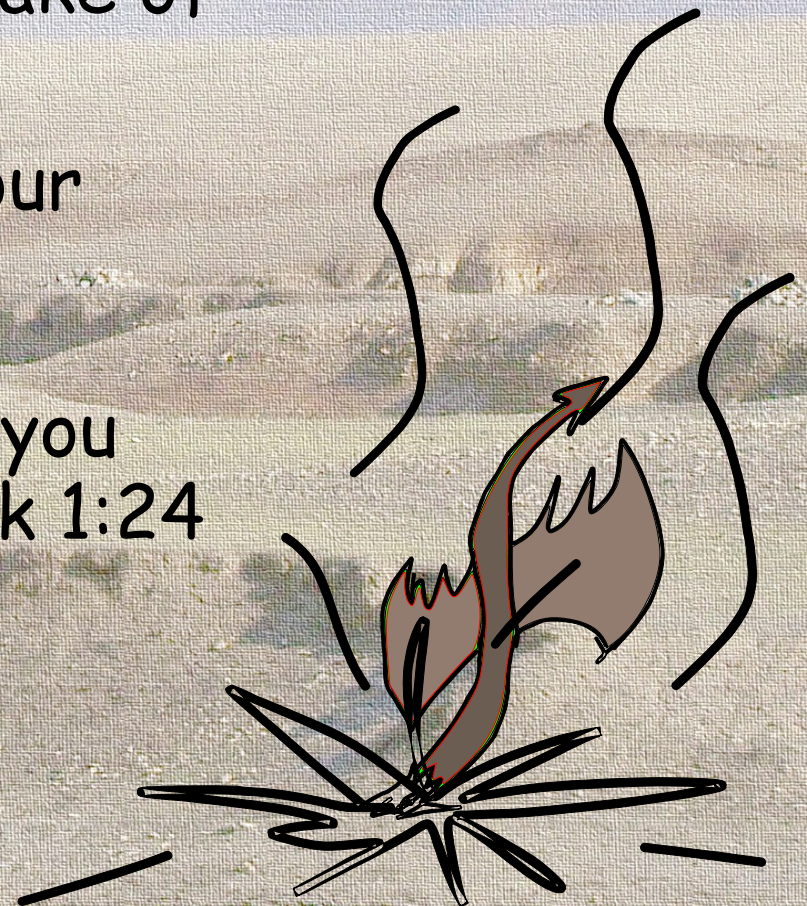
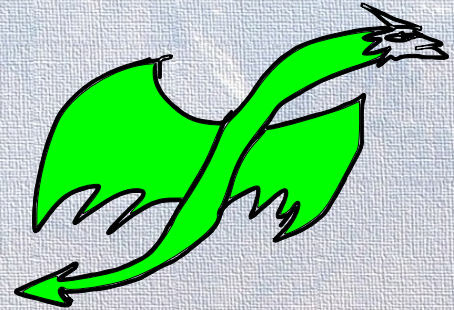
The people of God sing #5: the ruin of the dragon

The assumption of fundamental spiritual battle with the snake

- Genesis 3 – the serpent/tempter
- Revelation 20 – thrown into lake of fire
- Ephesians 6 – spiritual armour

He will be slain

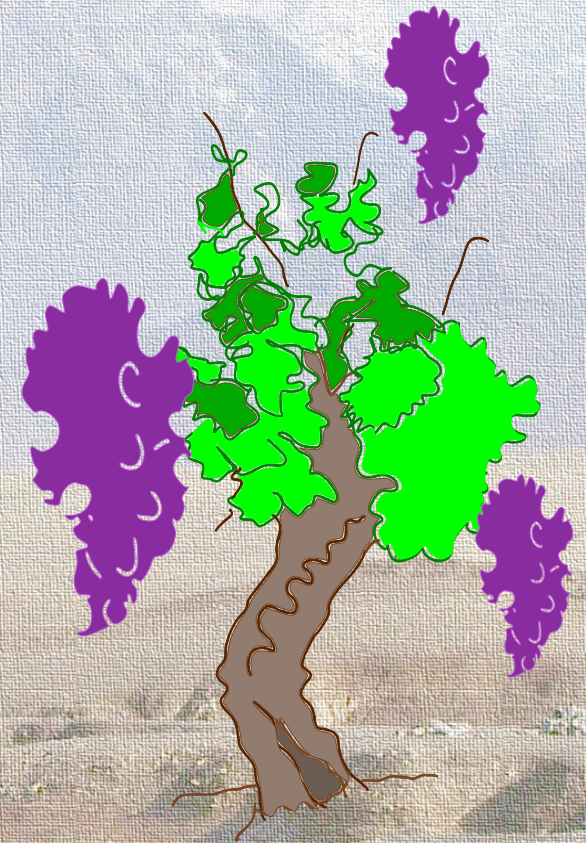
- “Jesus of Nazareth ... have you come to destroy us?” Mark 1:24
- Jesus the serpent crusher
- “three cheers for Jesus!”



The people of God sing #6: fruit

The previous lack of fruit

- 5:2 “he looked for a crop of good grapes ...but it yielded only bad fruit”
- The LORD is the farmer (27:3)
- He defends his vineyard against briars and thorns (27:5)
- He will fill all the world with fruit (27:5)
 - Jesus: John 15 - My Father is the farmer ... I am the true vine ... remain in me
 - Gospel - Colossians 1:6 “all over the world the gospel is bearing fruit”
 - ==> are you bearing fruit?



The people of God sing #7: through judgment to righteousness

The LORD judges Israel and the nations ... but not in the same way (27:7)

- v.10 the strong city demolished, v.11 dried up
- v.12 a people without understanding
- [in the end] receive no compassion/favour from their Maker
- v.9 Jacob's sin atoned for, sin purged v.9
- idols removed v.9c

Via Judgment

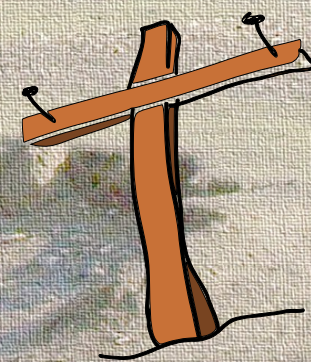
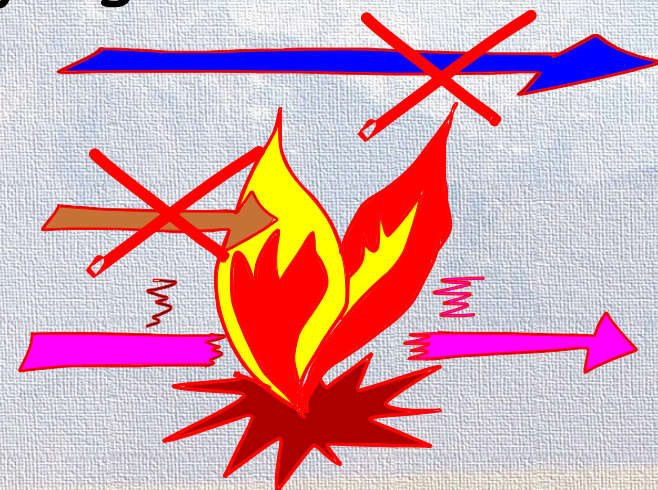
NOT WITHOUT

NOT AS SWALLOWED UP

BUT AS THE ROUTE THROUGH

==> Q: but how? Or how is it not fatal?

==> A: it is borne by someone else sinless



The people of God sing #8: the trumpet call

In that day:

- language of specific historic places
- Euphrates ... Egypt ... Assyria
- Trumpet call
- Gather the far-off exiles
- Gathered one by one (v.12)
- Become holy worshippers! (v.13)
- ==> can you sing this song?
- ==> are you singing this song?
- ==> would you like to be singing this song? Come to Jesus, in him all the promises are Yes!

