

Isaiah 61:4-11
 June 26, 2022

The Rebuilding of Zion Isa 61:4-9

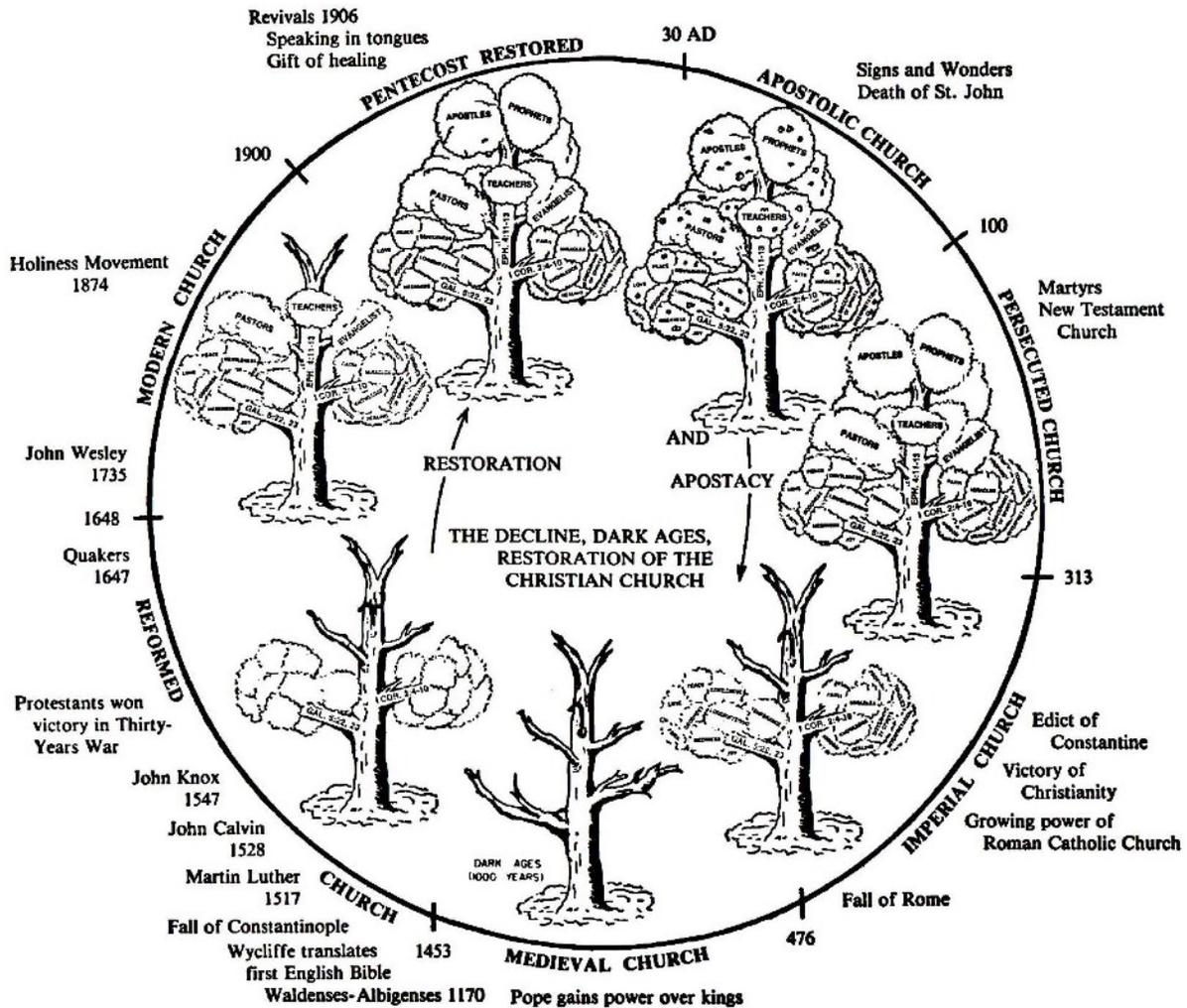
4 Then they will rebuild the ancient ruins, They will raise up the former devastations; And they will repair the ruined cities, The desolations of many generations. 5 Strangers will stand and pasture your flocks, And foreigners will be your farmers and your vinedressers. 6 But you will be called the priests of the LORD; You will be spoken of as ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, And in their riches you will boast. 7 Instead of your shame you will have a double portion, And instead of humiliation they will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore they will possess a double portion in their land, Everlasting joy will be theirs. 8 For I, the LORD, love justice, I hate robbery in the burnt offering; And I will faithfully give them their recompense And make an everlasting covenant with them. 9 Then their offspring will be known among the nations, And their descendants in the midst of the peoples. All who see them will recognize them Because they are the offspring whom the LORD has blessed.

“Then” = After being anointed (filled with) by the Holy Spirit (Isa 61:1-3).

“They” = They who have received the good news (gospel) and have been set free and become the “planting of the Lord”, “oaks of righteousness.”

“rebuild the ancient ruins” = The church, like Israel, went into a Babylonian captivity. By the time of the Reformation, the Christian church lost every distinction of being the “body of Christ.”

Present Day Truths by Dick Iverson; pg. 72



“you will be called the priests of the LORD; You will be spoken of as ministers of our God”

The restoration of the priesthood of all believers began around 1830 in a movement known as “The Brethren”. The Brethren had no ordained ministers and encouraged sharing in the worship meetings.

1Pt 2:4-5 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1Pt 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God’s OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Rev 1:6 and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father ...

Rev 5:9-10 And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. 10 “You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.”

“Instead of your shame, and humiliation you will have a double portion”

Shame makes us hide

Genesis 3:7-8 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings. 8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

“I define shame as the intensely painful feeling or experience of believing that we are flawed and therefore unworthy of love and belonging - something we’ve experienced, done, or failed to do makes us unworthy of connection. I don’t believe shame is helpful or productive. In fact, I think shame is much more likely to be the source of destructive, hurtful behavior than the solution or cure.” (Brené Brown)

How can we tell that we're hiding in denial? One important indicator is shame. Shame is a prime motivator for harmful hiding. Shame is a sense of "badness" about ourselves and that urges us to withdraw further from relationship. Shame commands, "conceal the badness."

Grace gives us the ability to realistically resolve our bad parts through forgiveness from God and others. People who have not received enough grace to solve this problem are terrified people. They are constantly on the run from the shame of their own sin, or the disappointment of seeing the badness of others - or both. (From Hiding from Love, by John Townsend)

“Everlasting joy will be theirs”

Isa 52:9 Break forth, shout joyfully together, You waste places of Jerusalem; For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. (Isa 35:10; 44:23; 49:13; 51:11; 54:1; 55:12)

Isa 61:3 To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting ...

Psa 4:7 You have put gladness in my heart, more than when their grain and new wine abound. (Psa 30:11-12; 126:5-6; Neh 8:10)

“an everlasting covenant”

It is the all comprehensive covenant that includes the covenants of creation and redemption; it communicates God's eternal purpose for man. (from The Covenants, by Kevin Connors)

Everlasting covenant is used 16 times in the Old Testament (Gen 9:16; 17:7, 13, 19; Lev 24:8; Num 18:19; 2 Sam 23:5; 1 Chron 16:17; Ps 105:10; Isa 24:5; 55:3; 61:8; Jer 32:40; 50:5; Ezek 16:60; 37:26)

Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord,

The Rejoicing of Zion Isa 61:10-11

10 I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, And as a garden causes the things sown in it to spring up, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise To spring up before all the nations.

“I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will exult in my God”

Zep 3:16-17 In that day it will be said to Jerusalem: “Do not be afraid, O Zion; Do not let your hands fall limp. 17 “The LORD your God is in your midst, A victorious warrior. He will exult over you with joy, He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.

1Pt 1:8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

Jn 15:11 “These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

“For He has clothed me with garments of salvation”

Heb 5:9 ... He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,

Eph 4:22-24 ... lay aside the old self, ... and put on the new self,

“He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness”

2Cor 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

1Cor 1:30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

“As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels”

2Cor 11:2 ... for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin. (Eph 5:25-33; Rev 3:23; 19:7; 21:2, 9; 22:17)