

Surprised by the God of Hope (January 2021): Texts

Romans 15.7-13

(7) Welcome one another, therefore, as the Messiah has welcomed you, to God's glory. (8) Let me tell you why: the Messiah became a servant of the circumcised people in order to demonstrate the truthfulness of God – that is, to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, (9) and to bring the nations to praise God for his mercy. As the Bible says:

*That is why I will praise you among the nations,
And will sing to your name. [Ps 18.50]*

(10) And again it says,

Rejoice, you nations, with his people. [Deut 32.43 LXX]

(11) And again,

*Praise the Lord, all nations,
And let all the people sing his praise. [Ps 118.1]*

(12) And Isaiah says once more:

*There shall be the root of Jesse,
The one who rises up to rule the nations;
The nations shall hope in him. [Isaiah 11.10]*

(13) May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the holy spirit.

Isaiah 11.1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

(3b) He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

(6) The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

(10) On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. [Heb. Simply 'glory']

See too:

1 Corinthians 15.28: God will be 'all in all'

Isaiah 6.3; Pss 33.5, 119.64; Jer. 23.24; Isa 66.1; Wisdom 1.7; Numbers 14.21

Psalms 104.30-35; Genesis 1; Exodus 25-40; 1 Kings 8; Ephesians 1.10 etc.

Isaiah 52.7-12; John 1.14; John 19.5

See *Surprised by Hope* (2008); *History and Eschatology* (2019)