

Astounding Greatness

Isaiah 19:16-25



Great powers

Who or what makes people afraid?

Who or what do people sometimes trust in rather than trusting in God?

How about you?

Geography

Assyria: Overwhelming power who conquered Israel

Egypt: Place of slavery for 400 years!

Ironically, Egypt became Judah's best hope for rescue from Assyria

Together they represent the world & its threats

Isaiah

Chapters 13-23: Prophecies against the nations

13-14: Babylon (greatest city in Assyria)

19-20: Prophecy against Egypt

22: Prophecy against Judah

Isaiah 19:16-25

"In that day": 6 times

"Lord Almighty": 5 times (Lord of the heavenly armies)

16-17: Great reversal: Egyptians shudder with fear before Israel's God

Alexandria (in Egypt): One of the great centers of the church for 6 centuries

The Big Idea

**God is working to bring
peoples of all nations (even the most unlikely in our eyes)
to God together in Christ**

God's purpose: all things under Christ

With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. *Ephesians 1:8b-10*

Application

Bow before Jesus Christ alone

The power and work of God are astounding!

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." *Philippians 2:10-11*

What steals your contentment, your hope, your peace? What brings fear?

What do you pursue to bring a better future?

Everything and everyone will bow at the feet of Jesus!

Join God's work of bringing all peoples and powers into His will

The call of the Church

Not mere survival, or getting through, or "hanging in there"

To be a part of this astounding work of God!

"The Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." *2 Timothy 1:7*
Ephesians 1:18-25

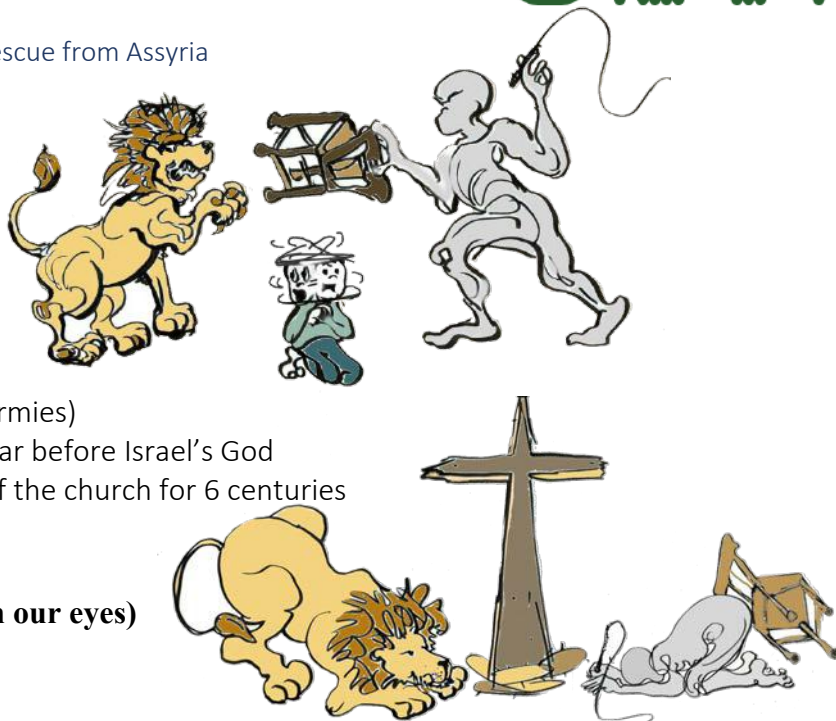
Boldness & Humility

Tell what God has done in your life to all who will listen

Do the works of Jesus

Common grace

Saving grace



Elisha, the prophet of God: 2 Kings 6:16-17

Great Powers

Who or what does the Church fear?

Who or what are we tempted to trust in rather than trusting in God?

What work are we called to be a part of?

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" *Isaiah 6:8*

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Who or what prompts fear in you?
2. Who or what are you tempted to trust in rather than trusting in God?
3. What helps you see the greatness of God's power, and the astounding nature of His purposes?
4. What might it look like for you, and for us, to be a part of this great work of God? How might God be sending you?

Conversation Starter

What prompts fear in you? What do you do when you are afraid?