

## Unpacking the Preach

Date: 12th June 2022  
Sermon Title: I am sending you...to arise and shine  
Bible Passage: Isaiah 60

### **Introduction**

Take time to read the passage from a couple of different translations.

- What is the background to this story?
- What stands out to you from this passage?
- What is being described in this chapter?
- What makes this passage such a great message of hope?

### **Recapping the Preach**

Stu said that Isaiah 60 is a chapter about the 'magnetic glory and brightness of God over and in the salvation of His people which arouses and draws interest from the nations'. He said that the prophecy shines against a backdrop of darkness (see Isaiah 59) and that it points forward to the coming Messiah.

- Read Isaiah 59:9-13 - what is the problem the prophet describes?
- Stu suggested Isaiah 60:1-2 points forward to the coming of Jesus - what evidence is there in the New Testament for this? (see John 1:3-9; 8:12; Isaiah 9:2)
- Jesus applies Isaiah 61:1-3 directly to himself (Luke 4:17-21). What does this tell us about the mission of Jesus?

Stu went on to point out the impact of this light dawning (vs.3-16) as nations coming to God, wealth being brought to God and worship being brought to God.

- What is the result of the light shining upon the people of God in vs.1-2?
- Pick out the verses that describe nations coming to God, wealth being brought to God and worship being brought to God?
- Can you think of stories in the New Testament where you see this happening?

Stu concluded that vs.3-16 is conditional on vs.1-2 and the people of God 'arising and shining'. He said that the way we do this is to be filled with the Spirit, live out the saving work of God and let our light shine wherever we are. Stu closed by pointing out that there is a 'not yet' element to the prophecy and vs.17-22 are still to be fulfilled and a day we look forward to.

- In what ways can we 'arise and shine' so that people are drawn to God?
- What did Jesus mean when He said, 'you are the light of the world' (Matthew 5:14) and practically how can we live that out?
- What are the similarities between Isaiah 60:17-22 and Revelation 21-22?

### **Closing reflection**

- How does Isaiah 60 inspire our worship? What things can we give thanks for from Isaiah 60?
- How does Isaiah 60 prompt our confession of sin?
- What do you need to ask God for, in order to grow as someone who 'arises and shines'?

**Response**

- Is there anything from the preach and passage that you will be taking away to reflect on or work on?

**Prayer pointers**

- Take time to share prayer requests and pray for one another.

**Additional resources:**

If you need some additional resources the below websites are useful:

- <https://www.gotquestions.org>
- <https://enduringword.com>
- <https://www.biblica.com>
- <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/>