

Weekly Word December 15, 2024

Marion Victory

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Isaiah 12:2-6

Phil 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

What great love our GOD has for Jerusalem, for His people everywhere!

The passage reading in Zephaniah speaks to us of His love, compassion, and forgiveness. His restoration and retribution.

Verse seventeen in this Zephaniah passage tells us; the Lord your God in your **midst**, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with his love, He will rejoice over you with singing. That word midst means, He is in the middle of, in the very centre.

He is rejoicing and singing **over** us! There are interpretations of this passage that I love. The Jerusalem Bible says, “He will dance with shouts of joy for you.” The Hebrew word means “to spin around under violent emotion” or to dance.

Isaiah 12:2 Behold GOD is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and song. **Verse 6** Cry out and shout O inhabitant of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel in your **midst!**

There it is again ... in the middle, the very centre ... so close.

There is so much in the Philippians passage today I encourage you to read it, memorize it, hold it in your heart. I want to bring your attention to five words. The LORD is at hand. He is in the **midst**.

In the gospel today John is calling the people to repentance and teaching them what they should be doing and how they should live. Answering honestly the questions asked.

[Here we have the Prophet, who from all things written of him, is the fulfillment of what was spoken in Isaiah 40:3-5.

GOD'S master plan in action. A voice calling, preparing the way. He will be great in the sight of the LORD, filled with the Holy Spirit in the womb, he will go on before the LORD in the spirit and power of Elijah. He wore the clothes of a prophet, ate a simple diet, and his life focused on the kingdom work that was before him.]

John continues, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose, He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Jesus was there that day, listening in the **midst** of the crowd.

We used to sing this song from Scripture in Song in 1980's
*The LORD thy GOD, in the **midst** of thee, is Mighty, is Mighty.*
He will save, He will rejoice over thee, with joy, with joy
He will rest in His love; He will joy over thee with singing.
*The LORD thy GOD in the **midst** of thee is Mighty, is Mighty, is Mighty!*

I was reading my devotions today and the thing that stood out to me is, I don't have to strive for His presence, I just need to position myself. Whether that be to pause, sit, lay myself down, it really doesn't matter.

He **is** in our **midst**.

