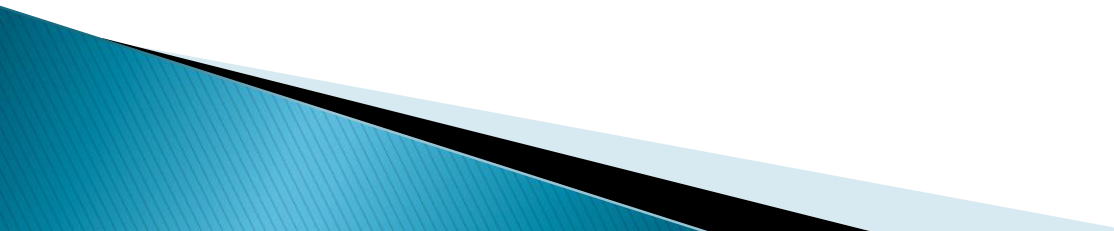


Come Let Us Reason Together 2!!

Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, let's settle this,"
says the Lord.



In Isaiah it was the Lord who spoke, what is He speaking now?

- ▶ December of 2019 prior to Covid - Isaiah 43:19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? NIV
- ▶ The questions of what might be “*new*” and asking what might be “*springing forth*”?

Unprecedented times:

- Covid
- Digital Transformation with Cloud Artificial Intelligence
- Economic Tsunamis
- Global Warming & Climate Change
- Partisan Sprit

No Quick Fix

Not a Single Thrust – The Jigsaw

There are only 18 inches from our head to our heart. The challenge is for us not only to know in our heads, but to get settled in our hearts!

- Psalm 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. NLT

This is where I feel the Lord has been challenging me. “Come let us Reason” on a variety issues:

- 2020 Election
- Covid 19 beginning for most of us in March of 2020
- Lockdowns and government mandates
- Economy, inflation and shortages
- Vaccines and side effects
 - Prior to the vaccine there were already many side effects: Divisions, Hostility, judgementalism, etc. This is even in the church!
- Now vaccine mandates

People in general are more confused, suspicious, irritable and less patient!

Among believers, more terms and discussions such as:

- Last days or end times
- One World Order / Anti-Christ
- Mark of the Beast
- Second Coming of Christ
- Rapture
- Tribulation

Scriptures:

- Matthew 24: 3-14
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
- 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Signs of the End of the Age
The Coming of the Lord
The Day of the Lord
The Man of Lawlessness

- **Matthew 24:7-8** Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world. 8 **But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.** NLT
- **Matthew 24:10-12** And many will turn away from me and betray and hate each other. 11 And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. 12 Sin will be rampant everywhere, and **the love of many will grow cold.** NLT

I believe every generation since the Ascension of Christ have wrestled with the question “is now the time”? 2 thoughts:

1. The closer you get to birth the closer and more intense the pains get!
2. Need to be aware and be careful we don't allow our love to grow cold!

Which way are we going?

- Psalm 1:1-2 Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. 2 But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. NLT
- Psalm 1:4 But not the wicked! They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind

The Bible life is a journey offering two roads. Regardless of how offensive this idea may be to the modern mind, it is “either / or” rather than “both / and”.

- There are two perceptions of reality; the supernatural and the natural.
- There are two conflicting kingdoms; the kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan.
- There are two entry points; the wide gate leading to destruction and the narrow gate leading to life.

In our media centered world today we get to the heart of this warning only when we recognize that the Christian is engaged in the **battle of worldviews, that is our whole perception of reality that is at issue.**

What's this World Coming To?

Psalms 1	Psalms 2
Deals with the word	Deals with the world
Contrast the righteous with the ungodly	Contrast the nations with their divine ruler
Deals with personal life	Deals with historical life
Deals with a particular	Deals with the universal

The two Psalm together alerts us to the fact that we are not only dealing with our interior devotional life and personal destiny **but also with the whole purpose of God in history and the destiny of nations.**

- In the sense that Psalm 1 gives us **God's word** as the conceptual framework for our meditation,
- Psalm 2 gives us the momentum of that word in history is and its interpretive key: **"Yet I have set my King/ On my holy Hill of Zion" (vs.6).**

He is absolutely in Charge

▶ Reflect on scriptures with me:

- Psalm 2:1-3 Why are the nations so angry? Why do they waste their time with futile plans? 2 The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the Lord and against his anointed one. 3 **"Let us break their chains," they cry, "and free ourselves from slavery to God."**
 - This isn't a one-time event. Constant reality
- Genesis 11:2-4 As the people migrated to the east, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there. 3 They began saying to each other, "Let's make bricks and harden them with fire." (In this region bricks were used instead of stone, and tar was used for mortar.) 4 Then they said, "Come, let's build a great city for ourselves with a tower that reaches into the sky. This will make us famous and keep us from being scattered all over the world." NLT
 - They were not trying to fulfill a religious purpose or create a new religion. They were attempting to put themselves with God and ultimately set themselves as God!
 - **Look at Isaiah 14:12-14**

The Bible as the written word of God, reveals both God's plan for the world and its center, the living Word of God, Jesus Christ(John 1:1-2; 14). Thus, the Psalm and the whole of the Bible must be interpreted Christocentric. As Luther puts it, in the Bible we have the words of God which are to be understood by the word of God, Jesus Christ. **All meditation of the scripture, therefore, and all movement in history must take us to Christ.**

- 1 Corinthians 2:6-11 Yet when I am among mature believers, I do speak with words of wisdom, but not the kind of wisdom that belongs to this world or to the rulers of this world, who are soon forgotten. 7 No, the wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. 8 **But the rulers of this world have not understood it; if they had, they would not have crucified our glorious Lord.** 9 That is what the Scriptures mean when they say,
"No eye has seen, no ear has heard and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him."
10 But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. NLT

▶ Why so Downcast

Psalm 42:1-8 As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God. 2 I thirst for God, the living God. When can I go and stand before him? 3 Day and night I have only tears for food, while my enemies continually taunt me, saying, "Where is this God of yours?"

4 My heart is breaking as I remember how it used to be: I walked among the crowds of worshipers, leading a great procession to the house of God, singing for joy and giving thanks amid the sound of a great celebration!

5 Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? **I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Savior and my God!**

Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you— even from distant Mount Hermon, the source of the Jordan, from the land of Mount Mizar. 7 I hear the tumult of the raging seas as your waves and surging tides sweep over me. 8 But each day the Lord pours his unfailing love upon me, and through each night I sing his songs, praying to God who gives me life.

▶ 9 I will say to God my rock, "Why hast Thou forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?" 10 As a shattering of my bones, my adversaries revile me, While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

▶ 11 Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me? **Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance, and my God.**

