

יהוה צדקנו

Yahweh Zidkenu—The LORD Our Righteousness

Intro

- What kind of name are you leaving behind? What kind of legacy?
- How do we manage the *analysis* we face from ourselves and others? How do we handle failure and regret?

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The LORD is Our Righteousness

- Zedekiah = “The LORD is My Righteousness.” Really?
- There will always be a Righteous King on the throne and a Priest before God (v. 17-18).

*“The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind,
‘You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.’” (Psalm 110:4)*

“[Melchizedek] is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace.” (Hebrews 7:2)

- God will “reverse the reversal” of their fortunes (v. 11).
- When will the Righteous Branch for David appear? When there is a bride and bridegroom in Judea and shepherds watching over their flocks (v. 10-12).

- God's people will be given the Name "The LORD is Our Righteousness" (v. 16).

"The righteous name of the righteous King belongs to everyone who lives in the righteous city." -**Philip Ryken, Jeremiah & Lamentations, 512**

- A Name of joy (v. 9)

➤ *Martin Luther: "I'd stand on my head for joy!"*

- Are you experiencing joy? ...If not, have you forgotten your new name?

Not Having a Righteousness of My Own

*"For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— 4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith" (**Philippians 3:3-9**)*

- Paul, what names you? What gives you a sense of status? Confidence? Success?

"For God does not want to save us by our own but by an extraneous righteousness, one that does not originate in ourselves but comes to us from beyond ourselves, which does not arise on earth but comes from heaven." —**Martin Luther**

*"And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'" (**1 Corinthians 1:30-31**)*

- Jesus is our righteous Name before God. He is our confidence and our boast.

“No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown through Christ my own”

–**Charles Wesley**, “And Can it Be”

Discussion Guide

- When you think about your name / legacy, what are you hoping to leave behind?
- What are some areas of regret or neglect or failure (past or current) that come to mind for you? How do you respond to these?
- What does “the LORD is our Righteousness” mean for *you*?
- Where might you be tempted to place your “confidence” outside of what Jesus has done? What do you tend to “meter read” for your worth?
- What practices keep you near to the Gospel and an awareness that Christ is your righteousness?