**Wells of Salvation 16 Feb 2020**

**Intro**

I didn’t plan this but we seem to have had a bit of a theme on wells these last few weeks.

1. A few weeks ago, God gave me a sermon about the Samaritan woman who met Jesus at the well and Jesus said to her “whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst”

i.e. If you want real change, a lasting solution, if you want to be made whole – it’s only Jesus who can give you that, you need to meet Him!

1. The following week when I spoke, it was about God wanting to do a new thing and re-dig the wells of our hearts so that “the water that Jesus gives will become in us a spring of water welling up to eternal life”

i.e. So that we can live life to the full but also out of those wells living water has to flow to others, and they’re waiting

1. Last week, God gave me a sermon about guarding our hearts, for out of it flows the wellspring of life and that God wanted to remove the stones that had lodged in our hearts and were blocking the life flow.

And over each of those weeks, I’ve referred to Isaiah 12 which says …..

“With joy, God will draw water from the **wells of salvation**.”

We can’t survive without water – it’s lifegiving for our bodies

NB. The Bible says, that God will draw that **lifegiving substance out of the well of salvation** that he has given to us.

-In our familiarity with being a Christian,

-in some of the nonsense discussions we have over technicalities or interpretations of things,

-in our pride and selfishness

………we can forget that God has given us the **gift of** **salvation** and it cost Him the life of His son

* Jesus’ capture means we get liberated
* Jesus’ sentence means we get forgiven
* Jesus’ punishment means we get acquitted
* Jesus’ injuries means we get restored
* Jesus’ exposure means we have a safe place to hide
* Jesus’s death means we get new life

With joy, God will draw water from the wells of

- forgiveness, pardon, deliverance, liberation, restoration, safety and life that is within us because we have been saved and we belong to God.

Isaiah 12 starts by saying

“Surely **God** is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid.”

**Q =Who is your God?**

This is my God, listen to this….

Job 38

“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?  
    Tell me, if you understand.  
**5**Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!  
    Who stretched a measuring line across it?  
**6**On what were its footings set,  
    or who laid its cornerstone—  
**7**while the morning stars sang together  
    and all the angels[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job+38&version=NIV#fen-NIV-13801a)] shouted for joy?

**8**“Who shut up the sea behind doors  
    when it burst forth from the womb,  
**10**when I fixed limits for it  
**11**when I said, ‘This far you may come and no farther;  
    here is where your proud waves halt’?

**12**“Have you ever given orders to the morning,  
    or shown the dawn its place,

“Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea  
    or walked in the recesses of the deep?  
**17**Have the gates of death been shown to you?  
    Have you seen the gates of the deepest darkness?  
**18**Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the earth?  
    Tell me, if you know all this.

**19**“What is the way to the abode of light?  
    And where does darkness reside?  
**20**Can you take them to their places?  
    Do you know the paths to their dwellings?  
**21**Surely you know, for you were already born!  
    You have lived so many years!

**22**“Have you entered the storehouses of the snow  
    or seen the storehouses of the hail,  
**24**What is the way to the place where the lightning is dispersed,  
    or the place where the east winds are scattered over the earth?  
**25**Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain,  
    and a path for the thunderstorm,  
**26**to water a land where no one lives,  
    an uninhabited desert,

“Can you bind the chains[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job+38&version=NIV#fen-NIV-13825b)] of the Pleiades?  
    Can you loosen Orion’s belt?  
**32**Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job+38&version=NIV#fen-NIV-13826c)]  
    or lead out the Bear[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job+38&version=NIV#fen-NIV-13826d)] with its cubs?

“Can you raise your voice to the clouds  
    and cover yourself with a flood of water?  
**35**Do you send the lightning bolts on their way?  
    Do they report to you, ‘Here we are’?

Leviathan was a giant, monstrous sea creature. (slide)

Can you pull in Leviathan with a fishhook  
    or tie down its tongue with a rope?  
**2**Can you put a cord through its nose  
    or pierce its jaw with a hook?  
**3**Will it keep begging you for mercy?  
    Will it speak to you with gentle words?  
**4**Will it make an agreement with you  
    for you to take it as your slave for life?  
**5**Can you make a pet of it like a bird  
    or put it on a leash for the young women in your house?

That God is your salvation!!!

The God who

* keeps the snow in storehouses
* and who the lightning bolts report to,
* who can walk on the sea floor
* and subdue the leviathan

……is your restorer, liberator, lifeline, deliverer

He is your shield when people have a go at you or try to take advantage of you

Been disgraced? Or ashamed because of something life has dealt you?

…… He is your glory and the One who lifts up your head. Psalm 3

Feeling disheartened, discouraged, despondent, like you’ve had the stuffing pulled out of you?

…….Why are you so downcast? Put your hope in God!

He can loosen Orion’s belt and bring forth the constellations in their seasons[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job+38&version=NIV#fen-NIV-13826c)]

Isaiah 12:2 says

“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.”

That is the only response when we truly know and understand who our God is

* We trust
* and are not afraid of people, or change, or of not being in control, or of failure, or of not being good enough

The God who…..is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid.

Isaiah goes on …

“The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defence; he has become my salvation.

* When you have given your life to Jesus and received the gift of salvation, God himself becomes your strength, your protector, your defence

And Isaiah says verse 4

**‘**In that day you will say:

“Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;  
    make known among the nations what he has done,  
    and proclaim that his name is exalted.”’

There are only two responses once you understand the gift of salvation that God has given us

**1st = to give praise to God and proclaim his name**

That means declare who He is

“Waymaker, promise keeper, light in the darkness, my God that is who you are!”

**The 2nd = make known among the nations what he has done**

i.e. Go and tell people what God has done for you,

- make Him known to anyone and everyone

- take every opportunity to tell people what he has done

i.e. Tell people so that His name is lifted up and honoured

Just in case that didn’t go in, or we didn’t want to hear it…

Isaiah repeats himself in verse 5

**5**Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things;  
    let this be known to all the world.

The 1st response to salvation and all that means is to

Sing to God & celebrate all the amazing things he has done

The 2nd response is to make it known to all the world – let our little lights shine!

**Conclusion**

For as long as I lead this church, our priorities are going to be:

* 1. Glorifying God
* 2. Telling other people about Him……

**Because God so loved this world, that He sent His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but shall have everlasting life.**

Isaiah concludes:

**6**Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,  
    for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”