

Get Over Yourself. Isaiah Ch. 51

The good man's past begins to change so that his forgiven sins and remembered sorrows take on the quality of Heaven: the bad man's past already conforms to his badness and is filled only with dreariness. And that is why, at the end of all things, when the sun rises here and the twilight turns to blackness down there, the Blessed will say "We have never lived anywhere except in Heaven," and the Lost, "We were always in Hell." And both will speak truly.
The Great Divorce, C. S. Lewis

The Text: Let's look at where you (Israel) stand

- Look back: vs. 1-3
 - Remember your history: _____
 - Remember the blessing: _____
- Look around you today: vs.4-5
 - The standard of the law is still active: _____
 - My Righteousness is near: _____
- Look forward: vs. 6-8
 - This world will pass away: _____
 - My salvation will be for all generations: _____
- Wake up from your dark reverie: vs. 9-11
 - Who delivered you from Rahab (Egypt)? _____
 - The ransomed will return to Zion: _____
- Get over yourself, let go of your fears: vs. 12-16
 - Who are you that you fear continually? _____
 - What has happened to the fury of the oppressor? _____
 - I (Yahweh) am still your God: _____
- Shake off the sleep and get busy: vs. 17-20
 - There are none to guide you: _____
 - With none to even mourn for your loss, how shall I comfort you? _____
- Stop feeling sorry for yourself, your affliction is over: vs. 21-23
 - You are dazed by self-pity and fear: _____
 - Your persecutors and tormentors shall now suffer : _____

Yeah, but what about my life?

- So, what about it?
 - Do you have fears? _____
 - Sickness? _____
 - Finances? _____
 - Relationships? _____
 - Do you have issues from your past? _____
 - Old sins? _____
 - Old pains? _____
 - Old grudges? _____
 - Do people or voices from your past hold you back and restrict your growth? _____
 - "You'll never _____."
 - "Do something _____."
 - "First you have to _____."

The conflict from the pulpit

- Two primary opposing messages
 - Stuck in the past: "you are all sinners, etc." _____
 - Head in the future: "Jesus is coming anytime now, etc." _____
- Failure to illuminate the power of God to restore broken lives.
 - *I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly. John 10:10* _____
- Restricting the Gospel to "our" group.
 - *And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they shall hear My voice; and they shall become one flock with one shepherd. John 10:16* _____

The hardest message of the Gospel, "Its Over."

The burden of the past is removed and we are pardoned. Its as if the prison doors have been unlocked and yet we don't go out. We are stuck in the cell of our own self-pity and torture. The message claims that God has silenced the voices of our tormentors and persecutors. The only one left who continues to judge us is ourself.