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Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks
Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
Through His cross and resurrec-
tion, Jesus rescues and redeems

POINT FOR THE WEEK:
There is value in keeping our
eyes on our Redeemer each day,
during the good times and the
difficult times.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
*For I know that my Redeemer
lives, And He shall stand at last
on the earth;*
(Job 19:25 NKJV)

(From "Our Daily Bread", June 30, 2015)

Series: GOD DEMANDS JUSTICE

UNIT: Advocates of Justice
for All

NEXT WEEK

Mend Your Ways
(Jer 7:1-15)

A Redeemer in Zion Isaiah 59:15-21

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson teaches about how Jesus will be and is **A Redeemer in Zion**. The **study's aim** is to see that God knows our hopeless condition as a fallen and spiritually helpless human race and to understand that God alone provides the remedy we need. The **study's application** is to use this information in all our attempts to understand humanity and live our lives.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

If you aren't angry, you aren't paying attention. Perhaps you have seen this slogan on bumper stickers or billboards. We might object to it. After all, we should control our anger, shouldn't we? And I resent being told that I am not paying attention! I read the bumper sticker, did I not? But that provocative saying makes a point that Christians should affirm. Injustice and wickedness seem rampant. Everywhere we turn, we see the power of evil. How can a thoughtful person not be angry in a world like this? Our indignant reaction reflects how God made us. As people who bear his image, our response to the world should reflect his own. Our Creator is utterly just, righteous, and holy. He cannot tolerate the evil that mars his creation and victimizes people. God's wrath, his righteous anger against evil, burns against all that is wrong. When we feel indignant anger about the evils we see, we reflect God's own reaction. But God's intent is not merely to destroy evil. He also intends to enact justice and righteousness as He reasserts His rightful reign over creation. As those who bear His image, we long for his will to be done! Yet if we are honest, we know that we are part of the reason that God's justice does not reign as fully as it should in our world. The righteousness that we desire is the very thing we often reject in our stubborn selfishness. We regularly act in ways that embody evil, not justice. We who long for the solution are part of the problem. The prophet Isaiah delivered his messages during the turbulent eighth century BC. Judah, the southern kingdom in Israel's divided monarchy, was threatened by the powerful Assyrian empire. Isaiah's generation had witnessed the Assyrians' destruction of the northern kingdom of Israel in 722 BC, and only by God's intervention did Judah and Jerusalem survive that awful time (see 2 Kings 18:13-19:37; Isaiah 36, 37). But the threat from within was just as great, if not more so. Judah was surrounded by violent, ungodly nations, and Judah itself had become such a nation. Isaiah addresses an audience that is aware of his earlier warnings that Judah will one day be taken captive as God's judgment on their rebellion (Isaiah 3; 39:6, 7). But God has promised to visit his people beyond that captivity to liberate them as he did in the exodus from Egypt (Deuteronomy 30:1-5; Isaiah 49:8-26), and Isaiah repeats that promise here. God will not abandon His to-be-exiled people. As their Redeemer, He will lead them a second time from enslavement to freedom. This promise is to those *in Jacob*—that is, Jacob's descendants, the people of Israel—*who repent of their sins* (compare Paul's loose quotation of this verse and part of the next in Romans 11:26, 27a).

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

A Redeemer to Combat Injustice (Isaiah 59:15-16)

Combat injustice through truth (15)

- Truth that comes with a seal (Eph 1:13)
- Truth that brings hope (Col 1:5)
- Truth that comes through maturing in the word (James 1:18)
- Truth that comes by being established in the truth (2 Peter 1:12)
- Truth that lives in us (2 John 1:2)
- Truth that comes by working together (3 John 1:8)

Combat injustice through salvation (16)

- Salvation that God appointed through Jesus (1 Thess 5:9)
- Salvation that Jesus will bring with Him at His second coming (Heb 9:28)
- Salvation through justification by Jesus' blood (Rom 5:9)
- Salvation that is gained through belief in Jesus (John 6:40)
- Salvation that brings eternal life (John 11:25)
- Salvation that is hidden in Jesus (Col 3:3-4)

A Redeemer to Bring Righteousness and Glory (Isaiah 59:17-19)

Righteousness (17)

- Righteousness that comes by faith (Heb 11:7)
- Righteousness that has been credited through faith (Rom 4:2-5)
- Righteousness that is the gift of God (Rom 5:17)
- Righteousness that is revealed through the gospel (Rom 1:17)
- Righteousness through the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:5)

Repayment (18)

- Do not try to pay back (Prov 24:29)
- It is God's role to avenge in due time (Deut 32:35)
- God is a jealous and avenging God (Nah 1:2-3)
- God does the judging and avenging (Heb 10:30-31)

Glory (19)

- God's glory is reflected in the Heavens (Ps 8:1)
- God's glory is over all the earth (Ps 57:5)
- God's glory is in His sanctuary (Ps 96:6)
- God is the King of glory (Ps 24:7-10)
- God's glory is great (Ps 138:5)
- Ascribe to God's glory (Ps 29:1-2)
- Revere God's glory (Ps 102:15)

A Redeemer With A Covenant (Isaiah 59:20-21)

Redeemer (20)

- A Redeemer that provided us full rights as a son (Gal 4:3-5)
- A Redeemer that gave Himself for us (Titus 2:12-14)
- A Redeemer that provided redemption through His blood (Eph 1:7)
- A Redeemer that entered the Most Holy Place to provide eternal redemption (Heb 9:12)

Covenant (21)

- A covenant whose mediator is Jesus (Heb 9:15)
- A covenant originally of law and now by faith (Rom 4:16-17)
- A covenant built around belief in God (Gal 3:7-9)
- A covenant made effective after the death and bloodshed of Jesus (Heb 9:16-19)
- A covenant that is an eternal covenant of peace (Ezek 37:21-26)