

At a Cross Road**(Isaiah 30:19-21, 26)**

Key Verse: ²¹ *Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." (NIV)*

The title of our lesson tonight is entitled *"At a Crossroad!"* A crossroad is defined in many ways:

- an intersection of two or more roads.
- a point at which a crucial decision must be made that will have far-reaching consequences:
- a road that crosses a main road or joins two main roads.

Tonight, my focus is the second definition. The crossroad I am referring to is a point at which a crucial decision must be made that will have a far-reaching consequence.

How many of you tonight feel like you are at a crossroad or have been at a crossroad? How did you feel? I know for me in my heart, I am in a place of seeking God's direction for every part of my life.

In our text tonight, Isaiah a prophet and the author of the Book of Isaiah was to speak for God; confront the people and their leaders with God's commands and promises. So, in the first 39 chapters of Isaiah, there was a call for surrounding nations to repent of their sins. Of course, there was much resistance/backlash which made him, not very popular as true prophet.

None the less, he was the strong and courageous man of God, fearlessly proclaiming God's Word. As we read his messages throughout these chapters, we are encouraged (as it relates to our lives) to return, repent and be renewed.

When at a CROSSROAD, there are three things you will encounter in your search for knowing which way to go.

1. Return (Isaiah 30:15-17)

Judah was warned by God that turning to Egypt and other nations for military power or strength could not save them. Only God could do that. They must wait for Him in quietness and confidence. No amount of fast talking or hasty activity could speed up God's grand design. We have nothing but "thank you" to say to God. Salvation comes from God alone. Because He has saved us, we can trust Him and be peacefully confident that He will give us strength to face our difficulties. We should lay aside our busy care and endless effort and allow Him to act.

We trust more in man instead of God; seeking protection from those who has far less power than God; serving our own interests instead of God's.

2. Repent (Isaiah 30:18-19)

God may have seemed slow to the people as they faced persecution every day and longed to be delivered; however, God is not slow; it's just that he is not on our timetable. He is waiting so that more sinners will repent and turn to Him. We must not sit and wait for Him, but live in the realization that time is short and we have important work to do. Be ready to meet Him any time, even today, yet plan your course of service as if He may not return for many years.

When the Lord speaks, He does what He says. It is comforting to know that God's plans and activities are closely tied to His Word. When we pray according to His will (as expressed throughout the Bible) and claim His promises (as recorded throughout the Bible), He hears us and answers our requests.

God can bring us healing when we are hurt, peace when we are troubled and strength when we are weak. Just ask Him to minister to you as He has done for others.

3. Be Renewed (Isaiah 30:20-21, 26)

The Lord gave His people the bread of adversity and the water of affliction but He promised to be with them, as well as teach and guide them during hard times. God demands a lot from us, and many times following Him can be painful, yet He does this out of His love for us. The next time you go through a difficult time, try to appreciate the experience and grow from it, learning what God wants to teach you. He may be showing you His love by patiently walking with you through adversity.

When the people of Jerusalem left God's path, He would correct them and will do the same for us. But when we hear His voice of correction, we **must** be willing to follow it.

This highway is the way righteous pilgrims (i.e., persons who journeys, especially a long distance, to some sacred place as an act of religious devotion) take from the wilderness of suffering to Jerusalem. It is found only by following God. Only the redeemed will travel Gods highway. They will be protected from wicked travelers and harmful animals. God is preparing a way for His people to travel to His home, and He will walk with us. He never stops at pointing the way for us to go and is always beside us as we go.

Part of Christ's mission on earth was to demonstrate God's righteousness and to be a light to all nations. Through Christ, all people have the opportunity to share in His mission. God calls us to be servants of His Son, demonstrating Gods righteousness and bringing His light. What a rare privilege to help the Messiah fulfill His mission; however, we must seek His righteousness before we demonstrate it to others and let his light shine in us before we can be lights ourselves.