

Sermon - 08-21-22
Ps 71; Je 1:4-10; He 12:18-29; Lu 13:10-17
Jesus' Healing Touch

This world shakes and rumbles and trembles. I did a little reading about the most powerful earthquakes of all time. The strongest quake on record occurred in 1960 off the coast of Valdivia, Chile. Deaths and injuries were in the thousands. It registered 9.5 on the Richter Scale. A tsunami added to the destruction. That kind of power is awe-inspiring. Today, the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews gives us some of the best news ever:

²⁶ When he (*God*) spoke from Mount Sinai his voice shook the earth, but, "Next time," he says, "I will not only shake the earth but the heavens too." ²⁷ By this he means that he will sift out everything without solid foundations so that only unshakable things will be left. ²⁸ Since we have a Kingdom nothing can destroy, let us please God by serving him with thankful hearts and with holy fear and awe. ²⁹ For our God is a consuming fire. (He 12:26-29 TLB)

This world can be shaken to pieces – not only that, but things decay and rot over time in this world of ours. At first you may not think that the great shaking God is doing is a good thing. Mountains crumble – and great buildings, monuments and works of art are reduced to dust and ashes. But, the Kingdom of God – though unseen at this time – cannot be shaken. And our home is that Kingdom. We are already living with God in Christ by faith. This doesn't mean we won't experience loss. Some of what we have built or worked to establish will not endure. When what has true value is revealed (as in the Hebrews passage) it means that the time to shift our priorities is now – immediately if not sooner. We have God's promise that what really matters – what has eternal value – will withstand all that shaking.

How are we to proceed since this is so? We understand that 1) God's throne remains forever, *and* 2) the true church is built on the eternal foundation of Jesus Christ. These truths give the humblest believer a security that does not come from worldly wealth or position. The child of God moves through life depending upon unshakeable things. So, 3) a child of God cannot be shaken either. Recall the story Jesus told in Mt 7:24-29: What is built on the rock withstands every storm or shaking that happens. The wise build their house upon the rock. The unwise build upon the sand.

Another unshakeable part of the believer's life is 4) absolute trust in Christ – the Rock of Ages. God does not leave us unaware of these truths. He sends prophets like Jeremiah to bring the Word of God. The Word of God is a guide for the world, especially the people of God. The Word of God is often ignored by the arrogant and rebellious.

The Prophet Jeremiah proclaims, thus says the Lord: "Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you **do not know**." (Je 33:3)

The Creator God of earthquake, storm and crashing waves **is the God** of compassion, lovingkindness, restoration and healing. Let's look in on Jesus as He brings the love and power of God into the life of a woman in the synagogue. ([video](#))

Our clip is from The Jesus Film, shown all over the world in many languages. Because of God's unshakeable promises in Jesus Christ, we can come to Him overflowing with praise and adoration and worship – expecting an answer. We dwell in the circle of God's love as we believe Jesus for our deliverance, our help in trouble and our healing. The Apostle Peter tells us. "cast all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." (1 Pe 5:7)

What is your need today? Do you need a personal touch from the Lord – or do you have a request for a loved one or friend. Let's pray together that the blessed Holy Spirit will pour out the gift of healing upon us – that we will be transformed – and that we will share this wonderful gift with those we touch this week. (prayer)

Amen.