Crisis Intervention

Tony Mauck · Isaiah 33

INTRODUCTION

- Crisis, intervention, crisis management, they are the terms of our times. Seemingly everything and everyone is in crisis.
- We're often unprepared for them. When they hit us out of the blue, they were unexpected. And now everything changes as a result.
- But rest assured, trouble will come. And God is a very present help in the midst of trouble.

1 It's Always About Fellowship

Isaiah 33:2; Romans 12:15; Philippians 4:19

- Fellowship is the key element to any crisis.
- O Lord, be gracious to us. We have waited for thee. Be thou their strength every morning. A daily pursuit. Our salvation also in the time of distress.
- Weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice.
- The one who knows that better, who can really say, I understand your pain, it is God.

2 He Shall Be the Stability of Your Times

Isaiah 33:5–6; Psalm 46:2; John 6:63

- The Lord is exalted, for he dwells on high. He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness, and he shall be the stability of your times.
- A wealth of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge. The fear of the Lord is his treasure.
- We need to go to the right source for solutions. The wisdom of God, the knowledge of God, the salvation of God.
- Where there may be death and pain and all sorts of troubles in our world, God's words give life.
- When nothing else seems to be valuable. The fear of the Lord is a treasure.

3 Sinners in Zion Are Terrified

Isaiah 33:14; 1 Peter 4:17–18; Hebrews 12:28–29

- Sinners in Zion are terrified. Trembling has seized the godless. Who among us can live with the consuming fire? Who among us can live with continual burning?
- The wicked do not have anything that we should envy.
- The godless person has in store for him or her pain of an extraordinary kind.
- If it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God, what will be the outcome? God is going to take account of his people first.
- Let us serve God acceptably with reverence and awe. For our God is a consuming fire.

4 Dwell on the Heights

Isaiah 33:15–16; Habakkuk 3:17–19

- He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity. He who rejects unjust gain and shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe.
- He who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking upon evil. He will dwell on the heights.
- Walking in the ways of God elevates you like nothing else can.
- Spiritual pursuit, personal devotion, corporate worship, studying the life-giving words of Scripture, these are our high places. And the ultimate high place is knowing the God of heaven.

5 Your Eyes Will See the King

Isaiah 33:17; Hebrews 12:1–2; Matthew 14:29–31

- Your eyes will see the king in his beauty.
- You know what happens in crisis, don't you? We get distracted from where we ought to be looking. We take our eyes off the king.
- We have the same prescription for troubled times in Hebrews 12, 1 and 2 that we have in Isaiah 33. You've got to look at the King.
- He began to sink. Got to keep your eyes on the king.
- We've got to keep our eyes on the king and the destination. The far distant land.

THE CHALLENGE

In crisis, in spiritual crisis, you need to seek the healing that only comes from the Lord.

MY NOTES