

# All I want for Christmas is Contentment

Isaiah 11:1-10

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**Isaiah 11:1-10** A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD-- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; 4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. 6 The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. 7 The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 The infant will play near the cobra's den, the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. 9 They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. 10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious. (NIV)

## Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church and Community

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ expectations

\_\_\_\_\_ for redemption: From the sin stained, burned-out stump of disappointing, busted expectations, a shepherding staff will spring up and it will begin as a small shoot but it will blossom into a new beginning. Isaiah 11:1 (JOT)

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ our expectations for greater contentment

\_\_\_\_\_ Spirit: God's Spirit shall refresh and fill the root of David. It will give him the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of good counsel and strength, and the Spirit of knowing God and doing what God wants. Isaiah 11:2 (JOT)

\_\_\_\_\_ your goals: Fear-of-GOD will be all his joy and delight. He won't judge by appearances, won't decide on the basis of hearsay. He'll judge the needy by what is right...Each morning he'll pull on sturdy work clothes and boots, and build righteousness and faithfulness in the land. Isaiah 11:3-5 (MSG)

\_\_\_\_\_ transformation: He will gird his waist with righteousness and truth will be his breastplate. Then the wolf will live with the lamb...Nothing will be vicious or mean because the experience of knowing God will fill the deep wounds, the hurt places, and a transforming flood will fill every relationship as the water covers the sea! Isaiah 11:5-6, 9 (JOT)

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ contentment in a discontented world

\_\_\_\_\_ the Lord: This is what the LORD says: "At just the right time, I will respond to you. On the day of salvation I will help you. I will protect you... I will say to the prisoners, 'Come out in freedom,' and to those in darkness, 'Come into the light...They will neither hunger nor thirst...For the LORD in his mercy will lead them; he will lead them beside cool waters. Isaiah 49:8-10 (NLT)

### Spiritual Action Step:

Will you go through this Christmas just trying to please all of the wrong expectations, only to be exhausted? Where will you find a renewed spirit and deeper strength? Hear the invitation of our gracious Savior: "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT) Let God's Holy Spirit renew and refresh you today by accepting God's redeeming hope in Jesus Christ. This week read Isaiah 11 and Isaiah 49 to allow the knowledge of God to transform your life with the spring of living water.

*Translations: NIV: New International Version; JOT: Jon's Own Translation; MSG: The Message; NLT: New Living Translation.*