

## September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Sermon Bible Study (Pentecost 16)

**Sermon:** Isaiah 35:4-7a

*<sup>4</sup>Tell those who have a fearful heart: Be strong. Do not be afraid. Look! Your God will come with vengeance. With God's own retribution, he will come and save you. <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unplugged. <sup>6</sup>The crippled will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will sing for joy. Waters will flow in the wilderness, and streams in the wasteland. <sup>7</sup>The burning sand will become a pool, and in the thirsty ground there will be springs of water.*

**Theme: God Hasn't Forgotten You; He Will Change Your Fate**

**Link to Audio Sermon:**

<http://www.christlutheranwestsalem.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/9-12-2021.mp3>

**Sermon Study Guide**

*Contemplate these questions during the sermon and feel free to write your thoughts in the blank spaces.*

1. Isaiah chapter 34 talks, in gruesome detail, about God's judgement and destruction upon the unbelieving earth. Here in chapter 35 God is addressing a different group of people. Who is he talking to when he says, "Those who have a fearful heart"?
2. God once again reminds his people that he will avenge the injustices they have received on this earth. We don't find comfort in God's retribution, however. What is the real reason we don't need to be afraid?
3. Our Lord promises to make a dramatic change in the life of his people. The greatest needs of his people are satisfied (blind see, deaf hear, lame leap, mute shout, thirsty find drink). Even with the varied troubles we face in life we have one problem that is greater than all the rest. What is that greatest trouble?
4. God has never forgotten his people. Because of sin, we were destined to hell. He changed our fate through Jesus. We are forgiven. Sin is defeated. What does that mean for our life here on earth? What comfort can our forgiveness give as we face the problems of this life?