SERMON OUTLINE FOR AUGUST 3, 2014

"The Dance of Death"

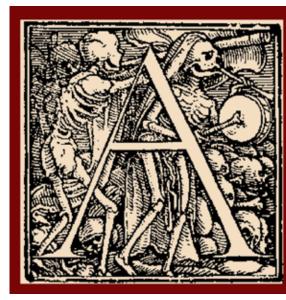
Isaiah 55:1-5

- INTRODUCTION: In 1538 the "Dance of Death" painting made its way into the Bible . . .
- I. WE HAVE LONG HEARD THE INVITATION TO DEATH'S DANCE
 - A. Isaiah echoes that invitation by asking us a penetrating question (Isaiah 55:2)
 - B. Why <u>do</u> we spend so much time & money on things that are *here today* & *gone tomorrow*?
 - C. Because of our sinful nature, that's all we <u>can</u> do as we join in the dance of death
- II. IN CONTRAST TO THE DANCE OF DEATH, ISAIAH GIVES VOICE TO THE LORD OF LIFE
 - A. God invites all people to LIFE, not death (Isaiah 55:1)
 - B. The LIFE He offers is rich & free (Isaiah 55:3)
 - C. This invitation is as old as Adam & Eve (Genesis 3:9)
 - D. This invitation is needed for we all have sinned & deserve to 'dance' with death (Romans 3:23; 6:23)

III. THE INVITATION TO THE DANCE OF LIFE IS OURS TO GIVE AWAY TO ALL PEOPLE

- A. Isaiah tells God's people to send out the invitation to all nations (Isaiah 55:5-7)
- B. This invitation is especially given through our Lord Jesus who <u>danced our dance with death</u>
- C. So says St. Paul (Acts 13:26-39)
- D. So says St. John (Revelation 22:17)
- E. Our Lord Jesus is the victorious Lord of the Dance!

CONCLUSION: The song, the video clip, our singing of the Celtic hymn: The Lord of the Dance





ISAIAH 55:1-5

Eve Nursing, Adam Toiling, The Hourglass Limit of our Lives (explained at 2:55 mark of sermon)

The Hourglass 🔍



The Dance of Death

ISAIAH 55:1-5

"The Lord of the Dance"

Sydney Carter

I danced in the morning when the world was begun I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth At Bethlehem I had my birth

Chorus:

Dance, dance, wherever you may be I am the lord of the dance, said he And I lead you all, wherever you may be And I lead you all in the dance, said he

I danced on a Friday when the world turned black It's hard to dance with the devil on your back They buried my body, they thought I was gone But I am the dance, and the dance goes on

Chorus

They cut me down and I leapt up high I am the life that will never, never die I'll live in you if you'll live in me I am the Lord of the dance, said he

Chorus