

Joy of the Redeemed

Isaiah 35:1-10

Speaker:
A/P Lai Keet Keong

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Jesus: Our Anchor in Uncertain times

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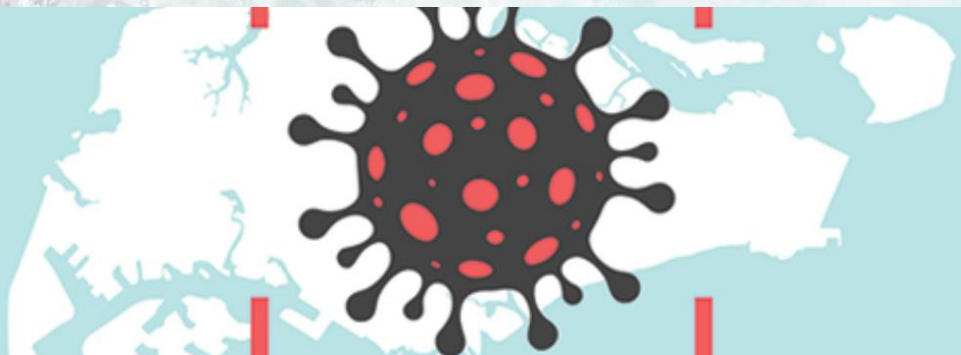


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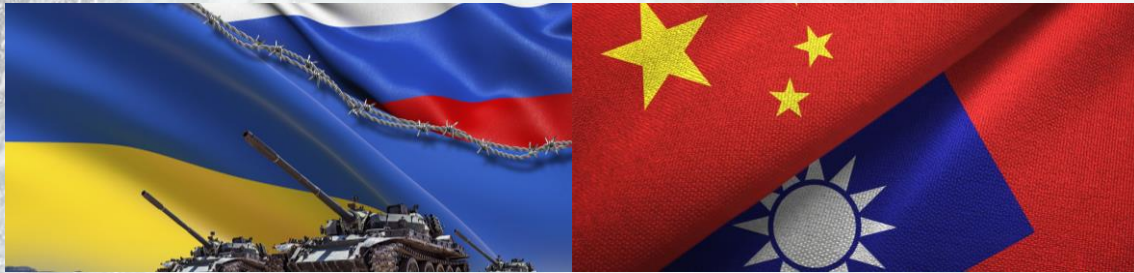
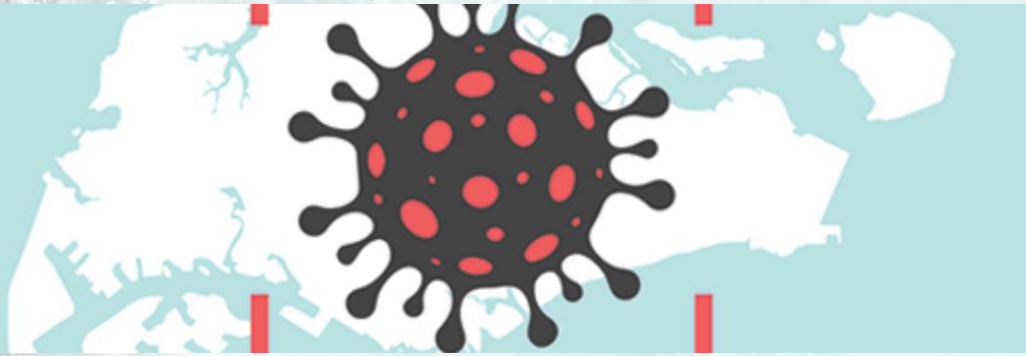
Luke 2:8-20



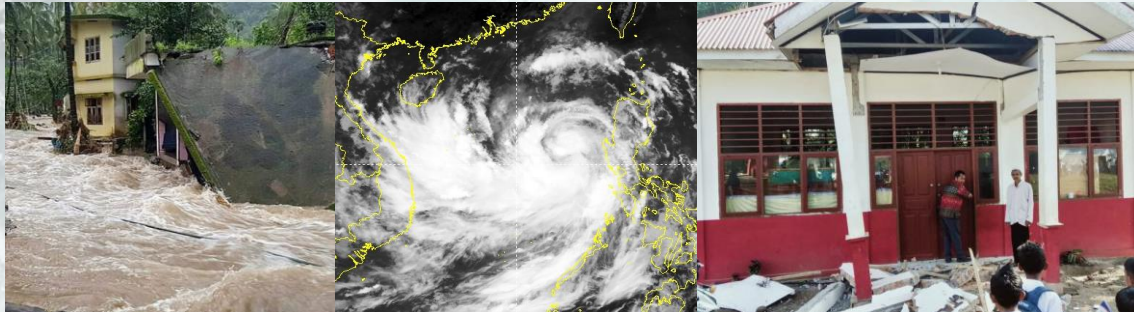
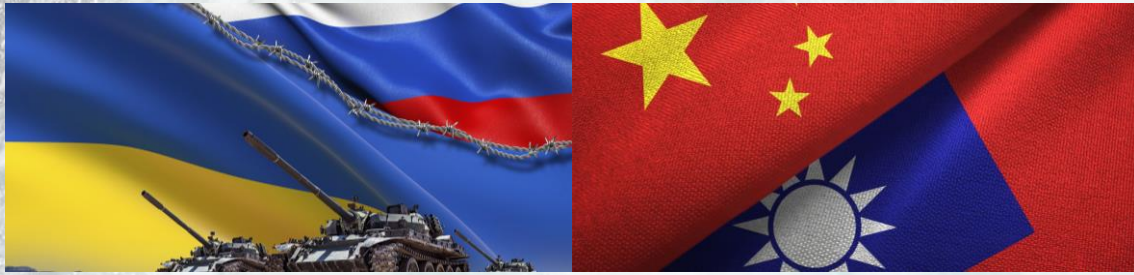
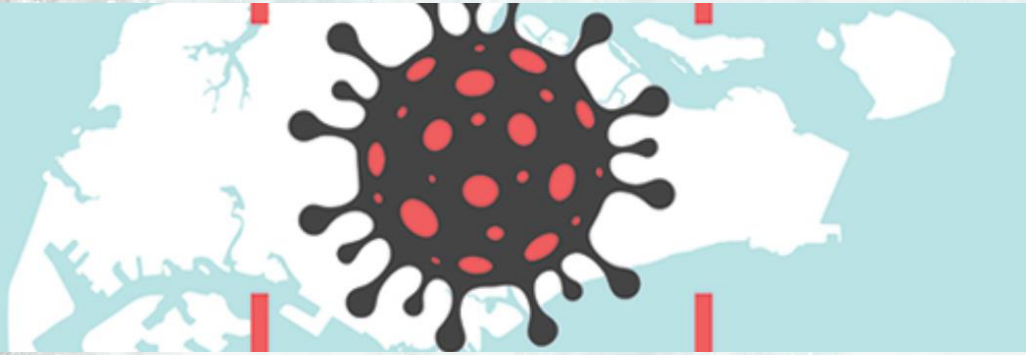
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1. Redeemed from Barrenness to Joy

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Isaiah 35:1-2

1 The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, 2 it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.

1. Redeemed from Barrenness to Joy

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Isaiah 35:6b-7

6b ...Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. 7 The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

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Hold loosely onto things of
this world. Rather rejoice in
things eternal.

(cf. 1 Corinthians 7:29-31)

1. Redeemed from Barrenness to Joy

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Our most desperate problem is **affectional atheism**, that is **refusing to believe God is the object of our greatest and most enduring joy**. This is the heart of our foolishness.”



DO NOT PUT ANYTHING HERE!

1. Redeemed from Barrenness to Joy

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Christ is our
dependable
anchor in
uncertain
times.

1. Redeemed from Barrenness to Joy

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James 1:2-4

“Consider it **pure joy**, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

2. Redeemed from Corruption to Joy

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Isaiah 35:3-4

3 Strengthen the **feeble hands**, steady the **knees that give way**;

4 say to those with **fearful hearts**, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, He will come with vengeance; with divine retribution He will come to save you.”

2. Redeemed from Corruption to Joy

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Isaiah 35:5-6

5 Then will the **eyes of the blind** be opened and the **ears of the deaf** unstopped. 6 Then will the **lame leap** like a deer, and the **mute tongue shout for joy**.

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Messianic Signs

3. Redeemed to walk in Holiness to Joy

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Isaiah 35:8-10

8 And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. 9 No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, 10 and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

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The Bible Church
CARE Group Ministry

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YOU

Joy

Gladness



Commentary: Don't go looking for happiness in the wrong places

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Urban city environments like Singapore often feature fast-paced living, stressful lifestyles and a constant pursuit of progress. IPS' Melvin Tay and Mathew Mathews pen reflections on what happiness entails in Singapore.



People wearing protective face masks in the Central Business District in Singapore on Mar 25, 2022. (Photo: CNA/ Gaya Chandramohan)



Mathew Mathews & Melvin Tay



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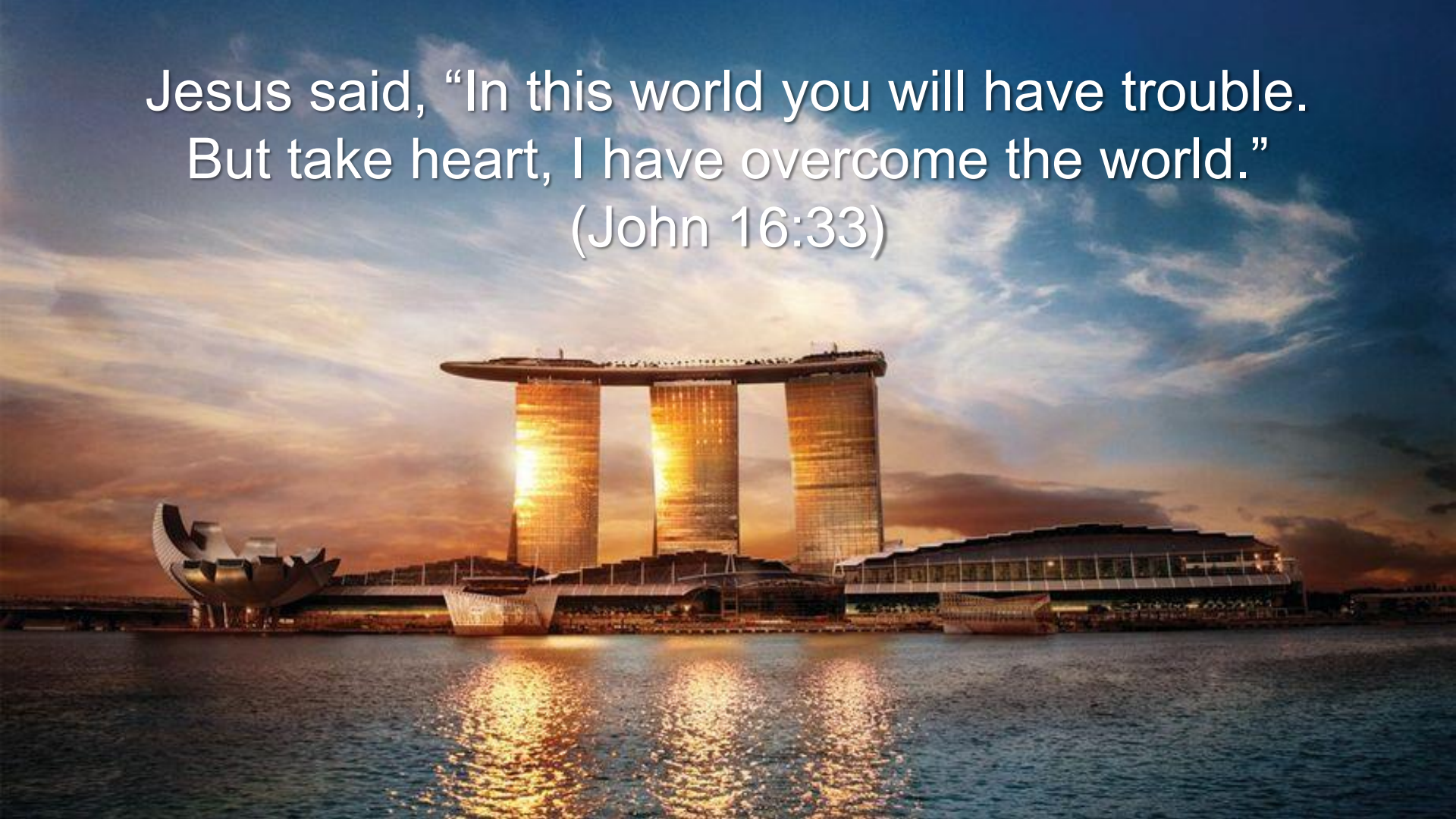


Mathew Mathews & Melvin Tay

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While these are respectable results – in the World Happiness Report, Singapore was listed as the second happiest Asian location in 2022 after Taiwan – one cannot help but wonder what else we can do to be happier.

Jesus said, “In this world you will have trouble.
But take heart, I have overcome the world.”
(John 16:33)



Application

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- If you are far away, return to God today.

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- Luke 15:7
- May we bring the gift of joy to heaven by sharing the Good News to those who needs the Lord.