**Psalters:**  68:1-4. 435:2+3. 397:5-8. 5:1-5. 115:1-4

**Reading:**  Exodus 20: 1-17. Matthew 11:1-19

**Title** A Holy Assault on the Kingdom of Heaven. Storming the Throne of grace.

**Minister** Rev. C. Harinck

**Text**: Matthew 11:12

1. The objective of this holy assault
2. The power of this holy assault
3. The victory gained by this holy assault

1 The objective of this holy assault

1. John Baptist while in prison sent his disciples to inquire of Jesus. Verse 2-6
2. Children; what did Jesus say to the disciples and what did this mean? Verse 5+6
3. What did Isaiah of the Old Testament say Isaiah 29:18 + 19
4. What did Malachi say about this John?
5. What did Jesus mean with these words, “The Kingdom of heaven suffereth violence”
6. Why did many people come to hear the preaching of John the Baptist? What were the results?
7. What do you understand from Jesus words; “and the violent take it by force.”

2 The power of this holy assault.

1. Truth; God saves sinners, God calls sinners to repentance; we are duty bound to be obedient to all God’s commandments, so also today God calls sinners to seek Him. “Seek; Knock; Ask.”
2. Read Paul’s admonishment to Timothy; 1Timothy 6:12
3. Canons of Dordt. 3:12 “God works in us without our aid.” What does this mean?
4. God is good! Regeneration is truly God’s work. Be encouraged, according to His promise God will still save sinners today.
5. What is “Regeneration”? read also Canons of Dordt 3:12
6. What is your motive for church attendance? Because you must? Because God requires this of you Hebrews 10:24+25. Or by the grace of God you love Him. “One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple.” Psalm 27:4
7. Doing violence to the Kingdom of God is the fruit of the Holy Spirit.
8. Puritan; “Blend of fear and hope.” God drives and draws sinners to Himself.

3 The victory of this violence.

1. Apostle Paul; “We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.” Romans 8:31-39
2. Lord Jesus the greatest Conqueror at Gethsemane and Golgotha.
3. Lord Jesus has paid the perfect price for His elect. He has paid the price to be their redeemer
4. Therefore be encouraged to hear the call of the Gospel, He invites sinners at His feet.
5. “Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matt. 11:28
6. Only few are saved. Is this your sorrow, burden, or comfortable excuse, eat drink and be happy, hope for the best. Did Jesus teach this way?
7. Learn from the teaching of the Bible, God calls sinners in the preaching of the Gospel even today. John Baptist cried. “Repent ye, repent ye.” This call speaks to us this morning, pray to the Lord in all seriousness your burden, your struggles, your sadness, your grief. The Lord spoke to Hagar when she was in distress, she confessed, “Lord Thou seest me.” Hagar left Abram’s tent not in a good way. God in His mercy saw her, and spoke to her. Genesis 16:7-13. Pray God will speak to you!