

## Behold Darkness and Sorrow

Isaiah 5:25 – 6:2

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~ When the dark days of despair come knocking on our door, particularly after experiencing great blessings, most of us respond by questioning the whereabouts of God, and begin to worry about the future. Isaiah, who lived during some of the best days the southern kingdom of Judah had ever seen, had the same difficulties when King Uzziah died. Isaiah wondered and worried about the demise of the nation Israel as the Lord had revealed to him. In this report from our Spiritual Safari, we conclude a little package of prophecy that began in chapter two, and runs through the end of chapter five; and which presents a synopsis of the Book of Isaiah. If you have not read our previous reports from Isaiah, I suggest you go back and do so now.

We have examined the six woes God pronounced on Israel in our last several reports; and they have each been literally fulfilled — as far as Israel is concerned — in this present hour. In our last report, we saw judgment would come “... *as the fire devoureth the stubble.*” That means quickly and thoroughly. The penalty for the final three woes, of the six woes mentioned, break forth as unexpectedly and furious as a Florida hurricane. Well, Isaiah was Israel’s meteorologist, if you will — and he warned them well in advance of the danger — but they didn’t pay any attention to Isaiah.

Also in our last report, we were reminded that the Lord Jesus said, “*a smoking flax God will not quench, and the bruised reed He will not break, but the Lord will send forth justice unto victory.*” See, the smoking flax will burst into flames all by itself. The bruised reed is going to die anyways. God doesn’t have to break forth in contemptible anger and wrath, friends; no, all He has to do is take His hands off and sin will take its course while bringing its own inevitable judgment – every single time. That should scare the living daylights out of us. God has done this in nations and individual lives myriad times throughout the ages. Be not deceived, God is not mocked, whatsoever a man shall sow, that shall he also reap! These are very difficult truths to accept; and they are very easy to reject and ignore. Many people – even self-professing believers – utterly reject and ignore the

truth of the Bible; usually while claiming to believe it cover to cover. Tragically, not knowing what's between the covers will lead to self-destruction....

## V:XXV – XXX

~ Verse twenty-five of chapter five of Isaiah is as strange to most people as a foreign language. Those who only ever talk about the love of God will entirely ignore this section of Scripture; as if God should have left it out. Perhaps they have deemed this section of Scripture irrelevant? The love of God is real, friends, I know that as well as, possibly better than, anyone else alive today — and none of us can keep God from loving us — but — God hates sin. If you love your sins, then God says He hates all workers of iniquity. Isaiah is warning God's chosen people that the anger of the Lord is kindled against *THEM!* That's what verse twenty-five says. This is not against the children of the devil, or the Romans, or anyone else — this is against "*His People.*" When God stretches forth His hand against His Own people, the hills shake in fear — because the judgment was unspeakable.

You can come to God by trusting Christ, and God will deliver you; but you are going to have to come *His* way — or *NO* way — because there is no other way. God's governmental judgment of His people is clear in the prophecy of Isaiah. You can ignore it if you want to — but it isn't going away. We also have the grace of God here; but, if you are determined to continue in sin, and if you won't come to know the grace of God by studying the entirety of Scriptures, then, may I say this kindly? — You're going to come to know the government of God the hard way. Grace or government — the choice is ours. The remaining five verses of chapter five contain the accumulation of the judgment of God upon His people. Frankly, it's such a horrible picture I didn't even feel compelled to include the text in this report. I suggest you read it carefully for yourself in your own Bibles right now.

Now, if you still have any doubts that the judgment of God has come upon a people who served Him — and whom He called His Own — then you just fly over to Israel and take a good look around. I understand that many people see Israel as a great and wonderful land and nation; and they think the land is being reclaimed, and that they are seeing some fulfillment of a future

prophecy, and all of that nonsense. But, friends, I don't see Israel that way. I see a people still in darkness; a nation that denies the Lord Jesus Christ as the True and Living God, and that rejects Him as their Savior. That's what they are today – and that's why they have no peace and safety. I don't care what you say about Israel — or what you say about me, either — this is what's real.

I see a group of people in Israel who demand a nation, but who are further from the True and Living God than most of the heathen nations around them. I see a people who desperately need Jesus Christ in their hearts and lives. The group of people who call themselves Israel and occupy some of the real estate that is dubbed the “*Holy Land*” live in abject and constant fear of the Arab; which isn't the leading of the Lord. Anyone who travels to Israel today is placing themselves in grave danger; irrespective of whether you are a Jew or Gentile. Because of that, my heart goes out to them; but they are unequivocally, undeniably, and irrefutably experiencing the judgment of God as a nation. God is disciplining His Own people today. May God remove their prayerless sins? A-Men ~

## **VI:I – II**

~ Now, Isaiah takes us to the funeral of Uzziah. Uzziah was a good king who reigned in Judah for fifty-two years; and the nation had been blessed spiritually and materially during his reign. Uzziah was very much unlike the ilk of natural mankind. Most Bible scholars accredit Uzziah as the last great king in Judah. He had brought the Philistines, the Arabians, and the Ammonites into subjection. Chronologically, and even logically, I feel like this should be chapter one of Isaiah; but, don't worry, my dear readers, I'm not starting a movement to re-arrange the canons of Scripture. Verse one opens on a doleful note, and provides the time, place, and vision Isaiah saw when he experienced the holiness of the Lord! This chapter will take us back to Isaiah's calling from God, and to the time when his ministry first began. So, we can know very definitely that Isaiah's ministry officially began when Uzziah died. Unfortunately, after Uzziah's death, the glory of the Lord is not seen in Israel in the Bible record again.

Isaiah's mindset must be considered now. Here is a prophet in Israel who sees a good king pass away, and an evil king coming to the throne. Isaiah looked around the city of Jerusalem, and every commandment of the Mosaic Law was now being ignored wholesale. Isaiah knew God would remove them from the land as a result of this level of disobedience – because Isaiah knew the Word of God. He must have been extremely high in anxiety as he saw the other nations begin to come against Judah. It was, obviously, clear to Isaiah that the way they would be removed from the land could only be done by being taken away captive; and that's exactly what happened. As prosperity ceased and famine loomed-large, I'm sure a severe depression set in over Isaiah.

That's when Isaiah went into the temple; which is exactly what he should have done. So, as our Spiritual Safari ends this leg of our expedition through the entire Word of God, we have the prophet in the proper place – the place where he could meet with God. In His temple doth everyone speak of His glory! This is when Isaiah made the discovery that the True King of the nation Israel was not dead. God was still on the throne — and He is still on the throne today, as I type this report and as you read it. We have already been told not to place our confidence in man whose breath is in his nose. Every time a man or woman exhales, they have no idea if they are going to inhale God's air again. Let's be careful. Let's be reverent.

I hear a whole lot of talk about "*visions*" around this forum on which I teach. Regrettably, I never – *NEVER* – hear anyone say that their "*vision*" is one of God sitting high upon His throne. No, it always seems to be some uber-small fantasy of themselves. That leads me to believe that most people who talk about a "*vision*" never had a vision to begin with; not a vision from above, that is! Frankly, all I seem to really see and hear from other so-called Christians is talk about end times and Revelation being fulfilled, and the Great Tribulation period – but they never talk about the Lord Jesus Christ sitting on His throne, high and lifted up, at the right hand of God the Father in Heaven. Honestly, because I always am honest with you dear readers, I know I can come across as hyper-pessimistic. Well, that's not a true evaluation of me; because today is a great day in which to live – likely the greatest day in the history of the world; because the Lord Jesus Christ *is* high and lifted up. I would rather live right now than at *ANY*

other time in history. Yes, the conditions of the world are *very* bad; but Jesus Himself said it was going to be this way. Jesus told us of the tares that would be sown among the wheat; but the wheat grows just as well as the tares! Jesus said, *“let them both grow together.”* If you sow the seed of the Word of God properly, correctly and completely, then it is going to bring about a harvest that Christ can gather later.

The Word of God is reaching further than it ever has before. This forum on which I teach claims that over *ONE BILLION* people log on every day. That’s a lot of potential. The administrators may think they limit my audience by shadow-banning my page – and they do – but they just happen to be limiting it to those whom the Lord wants to Personally speak to! The world may ridicule the Bible, and insult poor Bible teachers like me, but God is *STILL* on the throne. God is high and lifted up — and in total control of this landfill garbage dump of human thought and emotion that constitutes my teaching forum.

Public opinion just doesn’t happen to be the judge of whether or not this so-called safari is right or wrong. It’s right! It’s true. No one could prevent the Holy Spirit from reaching whom He will in Spirit and in Truth; because we place the emphasis on truth. I have some wonderful readers who love the Lord Jesus Christ from all around the world; from Africa to India to Indonesia to China to Pakistan, the Philippines, and other states right here in North America. There are a lot of tares around here, too, though — I recognize that. I also know we have a very good — a very holy — stand of wheat. I rejoice in that.

Lastly, the Seraphim in verse two of chapter six are God’s created intelligences. We know very little about them. Some Bible teachers seem to think they know all about Seraphim’s; but they don’t. Like the visions we just talked about, those people are making it up. The word Seraphim in Hebrew literally means *“burners”* or *“to burn.”* It can be associated with the sin offering from Leviticus — which speaks of the work of redemption Christ wrought on the cross — but is *NOT* used in connection with the burnt offering — which speaks of the Person of Christ Jesus. Verse two of chapter six of Isaiah is the only place in the entire Word of God you will find this word used; although they are spoken of in Ezekiel and Revelation as *“the*

*Living Creatures.*” The Seraphim are the ones that search out sin. A Cherubim protects the holiness of God. It could be said that the Cherubim is connected with the Brasen Altar in the temple; which is passive. The Seraphim is connected with the laver where the priests washed and were cleansed; which is active. You may want to look into that.

We’re talking about the inflexible righteousness of God now, friends. God will not compromise with sin or evil from anyone. We can certainly thank Him for that; because it is man’s compromise with sin that has brought every aspect of imaginable evil into this world today. Sin puts the frown on the face and the flesh in the grave. Sin breaks up homes and wrecks lives – and God says He hates sin – and that He intends to destroy it and remove it altogether from His universe. God doesn’t accept the white flag of surrender, either, by the way. Sin will be driven out without mercy from among the people of He Who is high and lifted up! When Isaiah received this vision, it brought him down on his face before God – as a sinner. By the way, this vision of the holiness of God is that which the church so desperately needs today. Isaiah gave a harsh message; so, I am giving a harsh message. This is serious business. God never asked Isaiah to apologize for Him; and God never asked me to apologize for Him – and I have no intention of doing so. God says to you today: take it by doing it My way — or leave it. Your choice ~

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