

I Am Holier Than Thou

Isaiah 65:3 – 66:24

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~ Our Spiritual Safari will conclude the prophecy of Isaiah in this report, as he bows out in a blaze of glory. This very unique prophetic leg of our expedition through the entire Word of God has taken us across dizzying mountains, treacherously deep valleys, and across some utterly amazing vistas of God's truth. Isaiah has lifted us to supernaturally high peaks of understanding and discernment; including the new Heaven and the new earth spoken of in Revelation chapters twenty-one and twenty-two. If there is one point Isaiah literally hammered into our hearts and minds, it is how attentive the Lord is to our response to His call to service in our lives. If there is no evidence that the proper, correct, and complete preaching and teaching of His Word has made a difference in your life, friends, then something is radically wrong in your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ; and that something is: it doesn't exist. If we have responded according to Scriptural leading, He will direct us in paths of righteousness.

In our last report, we saw the remnant of the nation Israel raise the question to God, and ask, "... *are You going to continue to afflict us and judge us forever?*" God responded, and answered Israel by assuring them that, because of the believing remnant, their sins had not frustrated or thwarted His plans or purposes concerning the coming Kingdom blessings, and that He is able to hold onto them – even in their disobedience. Blessings had been – and still are – withheld from the nation Israel – primarily because of their continual, persistent idolatry by which they rebel against God and reject Christ as Messiah. So, even the following long list of transgressions constitute but a *partial* list of the reason God rejected – and still does reject – Israel today. Frankly, they were breaking every precept God had given them through Moses in the Mosaic Law. Israel was walking in pride, and blaspheming God by doing so! They practiced all the externalities of a God-given religion, but their hearts could not have been further from Him. They committed iniquity and sin just as easily as they went to the temple to worship. Candidly, God could have had Isaiah write

about fifty more chapters just on their sins and trespasses. I am glad He didn't do that....

LXV

3 A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick;

4 Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels;

5 Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou. These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day.

6 Behold, it is written before me: I will not keep silence, but will recompense, even recompense into their bosom,

7 Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD, which have burned incense upon the mountains, and blasphemed me upon the hills: therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom.

8 Thus saith the LORD, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it: so will I do for my servants' sakes, that I may not destroy them all.

9 And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.

10 And Sharon shall be a fold of flocks, and the valley of Achor a place for the herds to lie down in, for my people that have sought me.

11 But ye are they that forsake the LORD, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for that troop, and that furnish the drink offering unto that number.

12 Therefore will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter: because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not.

13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry: behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty: behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be ashamed:

14 Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall howl for vexation of spirit.

15 And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord GOD shall slay thee, and call his servants by another name:

~ The church will not go through the Great Tribulation period. That means the *true and living church* will not go through the Great Tribulation – but there *IS* a church that *WILL* go through the Great Day of Wrath, known as the Great Tribulation period; and that is the false church who worships Baalim. Today, we have a “church” with a tremendous membership base that is as dead and bloated as a drowned, floating calf. That is the church which is called “*an old harlot*” by the Lord God Almighty in Revelation chapter seventeen. It’s nothing but a worldly organization with no difference from our political conventions, or the Moose Lodge, or Elks club – or any of the other animalistic knife and fork groups. That church doesn’t belong to Christ. They aren’t His bride in any way, shape or form. The true and living church - which is the genuine bride of Christ - *MUST* be distinguished from the false church; which has only an outward hypocritical form of a religious philosophy....

16 That he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes.

17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

~ Isaiah now brings us to the creation of the new Heavens and the new earth; and Isaiah is the first one to reveal this in the Bible. It appears to be a chronological event that precedes the establishment of the Millennial Kingdom; however, when we examine this very carefully, we see the remnant has already entered the Kingdom, and are receiving the Kingdom blessings when the new Heavens and the new earth are formed. The remainder of the nation – the false church, if you will – has already been judged, and can never enter the Kingdom. Jesus saith, *“come ye blessed of My Father and enter into the Kingdom....”* That’s Matthew chapter twenty-five, by the way. The others are sent away and reserved in chains in the blackness of darkness forever.

So, the way I understand prophecy, as revealed to me by the Spirit of God, is that *AFTER* the thousand year reign of the Millennial Kingdom ends, *THEN* we see the creation of the new Heavens and the new earth. When the Kingdom is established, the desert is going to blossom as the rose. That means there won’t be any more desert areas. Also, when we get to the new Heavens and the new earth, the earth doesn’t even have seas. Peter, in his epistles, tells us there are, actually, *THREE* worlds: the world that *was*, the world that *is* — and the world that is *to come*. The world that “*was*” has been destroyed by water, in the flood of the days of Noah. The world that *is*, as I type and as you read this report, will be destroyed by fire. Then, there will come into existence the new Heavens and the new earth. That’s the only prophetic interpretation I can find that fits logically and chronologically into Scriptural eschatology in a normal way....

18 But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

~ Just as Isaiah - and all of the prophets - had the visions of the first and second advent of Christ blended into one revelation, they had the blessings of the Millennial Kingdom and the eternal Kingdom, likewise, blended into one prophetic picture. The Millennial Kingdom seems to be but one phase of the eternal Kingdom. Because the Millennial Kingdom encompasses a time of judgment, I do not see any possible way eternal blessings of a new Heaven and new earth could come into existence until that program of

judgment is complete. In other words, only after judgment is complete could all things be made new. After the Millennial Kingdom, as we enter the eternal Kingdom, I believe there is something to come that is even more wonderful for the child of God in the church that has, *IN THAT DAY*, become the bride of Christ.

I am sure you and I cannot even begin to conceive how glorious and magnificent that time is truly going to be. We are not going to develop that doctrine at this time because we must move along; except to say that Jerusalem will be a city of joy *IN THAT DAY*. Jerusalem is *NOT* a city of joy today, not by any stretch of an imagination. They have a Wailing Wall – not a temple. If you stand at the entrance of the Mosque of Omar for the rest of your life, you'll not see a single happy Arab entering or leaving. No, friends, they're dreadfully unhappy. The Muslim only has one thing on his mind: *MURDER*. Alright, we'll revisit this awesome and amazing truth in our safari when we reach Revelation....

19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.

21 And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

22 They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

23 They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

~ This is when the meek shall inherit the earth; and those who mourn shall be comforted, as the Lord Jesus speaks of in the Sermon on the Mount.

That's not happening today. No one is ever going to grow old *IN THAT DAY*, either; we're all going to stay young forever. Frankly, I wish that could be said of today, but I am living proof that time has not come yet. The longevity that predated the patriarchs will be another feature of the Millennial Kingdom. There will also be real material prosperity *IN THAT DAY*, too. Most of the genuine and sincere sweet saints I know today are very poor. Permanence and stability are hallmarks of the Millennial Kingdom. Even the animal world and all of nature are going to change into a form that we know nothing about....

24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

LXVI

1 Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

2 For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

~ We can see the Kingdom passing before our eyes now. We can write over this chapter, "*THY KINGDOM HAS COME!*" Our prayer today is a request for the Kingdom to come. Here, *IN THAT DAY*, it has come! God is designated as Creator, Redeemer, Ruler, Judge, Regenerator, and a Rewarder of those who love Him. The eternal destiny of both the saved and the lost are spelled-out in no uncertain terms in the conclusion of this book. Both just happen to be very real destinations, by the way. Frankly, this little, old earth isn't really all that important to God – it's just a footstool for Him. God could turn off the sun, and start all over again in some other part of

the universe that we can't even see – and we would be lost forever – but He would still be holy and just.

Thankfully, the eternal characteristic of the Millennial Kingdom is the constant and continual presence of God. He never leaves us nor forsakes us. Isaiah has shown us the Holy God Almighty, high and lifted up! God is above and beyond this earth but, nonetheless, He condescends to our level *IF-IF-IF* we are humble and of a contrite heart. God makes the distinction between that which is true and that which is a lie; that which is real, and that which is false. The wheat and the tares grow together – only God can ever separate them. The Pharisee, who was meticulous in his outward religious philosophy, will be cast out. The publican and sinner that stood afar off, confessed their sins, and repented, will be received by the Lord and given a reward....

3 He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations.

4 I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.

5 Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

6 A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the LORD that rendereth recompence to his enemies.

7 Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

9 Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? saith thy God.

10 Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

11 That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

12 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.

13 As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

14 And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.

15 For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

16 For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.

18 For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

19 And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

20 And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

21 And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites, saith the LORD.

22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

23 And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

~ So, our Spiritual Safari through the entire Word of God ends this prophetic leg of our expedition in Isaiah with a panorama of prophecy! God has now dealt with the enemies of the remnant of the nation Israel, who were also His enemies. Verse seven is a remarkable verse; because we know the Great Tribulation period was a time of travail – and I say “was” because Isaiah speaks in the prophetic tense, which looks back on an event from before said event as if that event had already taken place. Israel went through the Great Tribulation period *AFTER* Christ was born in Bethlehem. That’s been two thousand plus years now. That’s quite an unusual statement, I realize – because prophecy just isn’t as simple as some people seem to think it is. Pray for wisdom now – Selah.

God is going to see to it that every minute detail He has promised us is accomplished, friends. That small group of one hundred forty-four

thousand, who were sealed at the beginning of the Great Tribulation period, is going to come through unscathed – not a single one is going to be missing. Further, while there will be a temple, with sacrifices reinstated in the Millennial Kingdom, there *WILL NOT* be a temple in the *Eternal* Kingdom that is beyond. Saith Jesus, *“when the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world....”*

Lastly, hell is real, my friends. There is no peace, saith my God, for the wicked; not now, and not in eternity. You can teach it however you want to. You can deny it, and you can color it with whatever brush you have, in an attempt to tone it down; but it is an eternal place in which there is no God - and from which there is *NO* chance of redemption. There is no peace in hell. There is no rest in hell. There is no contentment in hell. Saith Jesus, *“it came to pass, that Lazarus the beggar died, and the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell the rich man lift up his eyes, being in torments The rich man cried and said have mercy on me and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that which would come from thence. Then the rich man said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send Lazarus to my father's house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, if they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead....”*

24 The eternally lost man shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh ~

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