

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

Nov 2016

Isaiah

Holy Living

Lesson # 17 God's Glory - Jerusalem

INTRODUCTION

What was one of the more exuberant weddings you've attended?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read Isaiah 60

Note: These verses seem to refer to more modern times rather than Isaiah's times. Bowing down (Vs 16), in the OT, was not necessarily a gesture of worshiping a deity; it was an act symbolizing respect and humility before a superior authority, which may have been a human agency. Bowing in worship was borrowed from secular practice, because the deity was a "king" or greater authority. For the descendants of Judah's oppressors to bow to the Judeans would not be worship. It will be the recognition that those who are faithful to God, whom their enemies had dishonored or afflicted, had now been vindicated. Further, those who come to submit to God's people are fundamentally coming to God's light (vv. 1-2), coming to honor the Lord with the tribute due a King (vv. 6, 9). They are really submitting to God, for Zion is His holy city.¹

1. What light might Isaiah be referring to? **Vv 1-3; 19-20 Jn 1:4-9; 2 Cor 4:6; 1 Th 5:5**
2. What event might Isaiah be referring to? **Vv 3, 6; Mt 2:1-12**
3. Isaiah may also be referring to "The day of the Lord" (Amos 5:18) in the future, when the Lord will punish the nations for their sins. Where will the people go to worship the Lord and share their wealth? **Vv 3, 10-13**

Read Isaiah 61

4. How does verse one describe the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
5. Why did Jesus apply this passage to Himself? **Vv 1-6; Lk 4:16-21**
6. Why didn't He include verse 2 (the Day of Vengeance)? **63:4**

Read Isaiah 62

Note: Hephziba (Vs 4) means "my delight is in her" and is the symbolic name for the city of Jerusalem. Beulah (Vs 4) means married. When a bride marries she is given a new name.

7. How does the Lord feel about His renewed relationship with Israel? **Vv 4-5**
8. Who are the watchmen that God has posted to remind Him of His promises towards Israel? **Vs 6, 7; Ps 122:6**
9. Why are the prayers of His people an important part of God's plan? **James 5:16**

APPLICATION

How can you pray for peace in Jerusalem?

Grace is but glory begun," said Jonathan Edwards, "and glory is but grace perfected." Whatever begins with God's grace will lead to God's glory (1 Peter 5:10), and that includes the nation of Israel. In the last seven chapters of Isaiah he uses the word "glory" in one form or another over 23 times.²

¹ Cabal, T., Brand, C. O., Clendenen, E. R., Copan, P., Moreland, J., & Powell, D. (2007). *The Apologetics Study Bible: Real Questions, Straight Answers, Stronger Faith* (1075). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.

² Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *Be comforted*. An Old Testament study. (152). Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books.