

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

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

Nov 2016

**Isaiah**

Holy Living

## Lesson # 18 God's Glory – His Promises

### INTRODUCTION

What possession have you cherished that was broken, lost or stolen?

### OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

#### Read Isaiah 63

*Note: Edom is named here as a representative of the nations that have oppressed the Jews. Bozrah was one of its main cities, and its name means "grape gathering." This is significant since the image here is that of the wine press (Joel 3:13; Rev. 14:17–20). The name "Edom" means "red" and was a nickname for Esau (Gen. 25:30).<sup>1</sup> If God is a God of love (1 Jn 4:8, 16), it seems out of character for Him to express such anger and wrath against people, in this case the Edomites. In raising this issue, what tends to be overlooked is what the Bible means by "love." In Scripture this is a covenant-related concept; God's love is His faithfulness to a relationship He has granted to those who have pledged themselves to Him. The NT concept of agape love depends on this covenantal idea (1 Jn 4:20–21). God loves His world in a general way (Jn 3:16) but His faithful love extends especially toward those who belong to His covenant; because of His faithfulness to them, His judgment falls upon their enemies. Edom was a long-term enemy of Israel, and all such enemies (Edom represents them here) need to know that God's wrath is real and will come upon those who reject His truth and stubbornly refuse to repent (Rom 2:5). God's anger flares precisely because of His love, not in spite of it.<sup>2</sup>*

1. From where is the Lord returning on the Day of the Lord? Vv 1-6; **Rev 19:11-21**

2. How will the Lord's second coming compare to His first coming? Vs 4; **Lk 4:19**

#### Read Isaiah 65:1-7; 11-16

3. If Israel did not want what God had to offer, who did He give it to? Vs 1; **Rom 10:19-20; Lk 14:16-24**

4. What sins kept God from answering their prayers? Vv 2-7

#### Read Isaiah 65:17-66:25

*Note: Political Israel was born on May 14, 1948; but "the new Israel" will be "born in a day" when they believe on Jesus Christ. Jerusalem will experience joy, peace, and satisfaction. Like a nursing baby, she will find health and peace in the arms of the Lord.<sup>3</sup>*

5. How does Isaiah describe the millennium kingdom?

6. What are some examples of a life without the curse of sin? Vv 66:24,25

### APPLICATION

How can God's promises be real to you?

***Throughout his book, Isaiah has presented us with alternatives: Trust the Lord and live, or rebel against the Lord and die. He has also explained the holiness and wrath of God and warned of His judgment. He has promised glory for those who will believe and judgment for those who scoff.<sup>4</sup>***

<sup>1</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>4</sup> Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *Be comforted*. An Old Testament study. (158, 161, 163). Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books.

<sup>2</sup> 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* (1077–1078). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.

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