

The Father Knows Best

School of the Bible Class

Isaiah

1saiah 51:9-53:1 046 May 14, 2023

Donald L Goertzen Presenter Indian Hills Community Church



The Restoration of Israel The Nations and the Creation

Isaiah 40-66

The Restoration—Heading Home!

Isaiah 45:18 "I did not create earth to be a waste place."

- We are in the joyous section of Isaiah. It's like the sprinter heading for the finish line.
- The agony of preparation is past for Israel only the glory of the future is considered.
- It has been an arduous journey and many of their country men have fallen on the way—no glory but ignominy for them. (Dominos?)

Comforting My People

- We who have the completed revelation and a knowledge of the history of God's working can only relish with these people the prospect of their <u>home going</u>.
- Even as we speak, many are suffering in unbelief refusing to take the lifeline and be saved.
- But God will not let this condition last—in our lessons we are gaining insight into the Servant's life, the one who will restore the fortunes of His people will also restore the fortunes of all creation.

Comforting My People

- In our section today (parts of Isaiah 51-53) we have the Lord reassuring Israel *Zion* that her days of judgment are completed and that the glories of Jerusalem *Zion* awaits them. The *city* will not be an ordinary one, but one clothed in "beautiful garments."
- They are reminded that their sons (leadership) could not accomplish this but no fear, the Lord will himself intervene.
- We also see the enlarging of the personage of "My Servant" and His work. Developed in Isaiah 52 and more fully in chp 53.

Zion Jerusalem the City as Head

- While our cities today are the source of all kinds of sins, all those listed in Romans 1, these cities are a perversion of God's intent—that we live in cities.
 That is the best place to live.
- Humans are social beings and function in the context of others. While hermits may be admired for their ability to tough it out alone we understand that they are maladjusted to their native construction.

The City, Zion, New Jerusalem

- The serendipity of today is that we are heading for a city not an acreage in isolation—that is closer to Hell.
- We have this truth being underscored in Isaiah 52:1 and Ezekiel 40:2; which is expanded in great detail the City in Revelation 21.
- Reminder: There is no indiction that all of these features listed in Isaiah are divided up between the "Millennial Kingdom" and the "Eternal State."

The New Jerusalem at Home

- The church certainly is part of the Jewish promises and we will live in glorified bodies in the New Jerusalem that has come down (to earth).
- There is no indication that the church saints are in a "holding house" with no access to the created world.
- But residents in the New Jerusalem, housing the glorified saints, can commingle on earth (to rule). But unlike the glorified saints, the earthbound creatures will not be able to enter the "upper" New Jerusalem. But the earthbound righteous have access to the earth "connected place" at the New Jerusalem where the throne of God is.



- ⁹Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord; Awake as in the days of old, the generations of long ago.
- Was it not You who cut Rahab (Judges? unnamed there) in pieces, Who pierced the dragon? ¹⁰Was it not You who dried up the sea, The waters of the great deep; Who made the depths of the sea a pathway For the redeemed to cross over?
- 11So the ransomed of the Lord will return (at 2nd) And come with joyful shouting to Zion, And everlasting joy (party favors) will be on their heads. They will obtain gladness and joy, And sorrow and sighing will flee away. Isaiah 51:9-11

- you are afraid of man who dies And of the son of man who is made like grass.
- (In the past) ¹³That you have forgotten the Lord your Maker, Who stretched out the heavens And laid the foundations of the earth, That you fear continually all day long because of the fury of the oppressor, As he makes ready to destroy?
- But where is the fury of the oppressor? Isaiah 51:12–13



- (Be comforted) 14"The exile will soon be set free, and will not die in the dungeon, nor will his bread be lacking.
 - [The authority] 15"For I am the Lord your God, who stirs up the sea and its waves roar (the Lord of hosts is His name).
 - [Be comforted] ¹⁶"I have put My words in your mouth and have [1. your protection] covered you with the shadow of My hand, to [2. my sovereignty] establish [confirm] the heavens, to found [confirm] the earth, and to say to Zion, 'You are My people.' " Isaiah 51:14–16

ismal History

- [Be comforted and take action] ¹⁷Rouse yourself! Rouse yourself! Arise, O Jerusalem, You who have drunk from the Lord's hand the cup of His anger; [in the past] The chalice of reeling you have drained to the dregs.
- (There was no leadership from the people) ¹⁸There is none to guide her among all the sons she has borne, Nor is there one to take her by the hand among all the sons she has reared. Isaiah 51:17–18

(Historical reminder of human failure) ¹⁹These two things have befallen you; [1] Who will mourn for you? [2] The devastation and destruction, famine and sword; How shall I comfort you? ²⁰Your sons (leadership) have fainted, They lie helpless at the head of every street, Like an antelope in a net, (They have experienced the) Full of the wrath of the Lord, The rebuke of your God. ²¹Therefore, please hear this, you afflicted (those who still depend on their sons), Who are drunk, but not with wine: [saiah 51:19–21]

- [The Lord not man comforts] ²²Thus says your Lord, the Lord, even your God Who contends [advocates] for His people, "Behold, I have taken out of your hand the cup of reeling, The chalice of My anger; You will never drink it again.
- 23" I will put it into the hand of your tormentors, Who have said to you, 'Lie down that we may walk over you.' You have even made your back like the ground And like the street for those who walk over it." Isaiah 51:22-23

Jerusalem is Off Limits to the Unrighteous Isaiah 52

- 'Awake, awake, (be restored) Clothe yourself in your strength, O Zion; Clothe yourself in your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city;
- For the uncircumcised and the unclean Will no longer come into you. ²Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, O captive Jerusalem; Loose yourself from the chains around your neck, O captive daughter of Zion. Isaiah 52:1–2

Parallel Event in Revelation

Parallel Passage in Revelation 21

• Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. Revelation 21:1–2

Parallel Passage in Revelation 21

• 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, 4and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." Revelation 21:3-4

Jerusalem is Restored to Favor

• 8"But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." 9Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." Revelation 21:8–9

Reflected in Revelation 21

- 10And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- 11having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. Revelation 21:10–11
- Remember: Ezekiel 40:2 In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain, and on it to the south there was a structure like a city. Ezekiel 40:2

The City

• 23And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. 24The nations will walk by its light (law), and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. 25In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; 26and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; 27and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. Revelation 21:23-27

The Garment of the City

Jerusalem is Off Limits to the Unrighteous

- Awake, awake, Clothe yourself in your strength, O Zion; Clothe yourself in your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city;
- For the uncircumcised and the unclean Will no longer come into you. ²Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, O captive Jerusalem; Loose yourself from the chains around your neck, O captive daughter of Zion. Isaiah 52:1–2

Isaiah 52:1 O Zion Clothe yourself in your beautiful garments

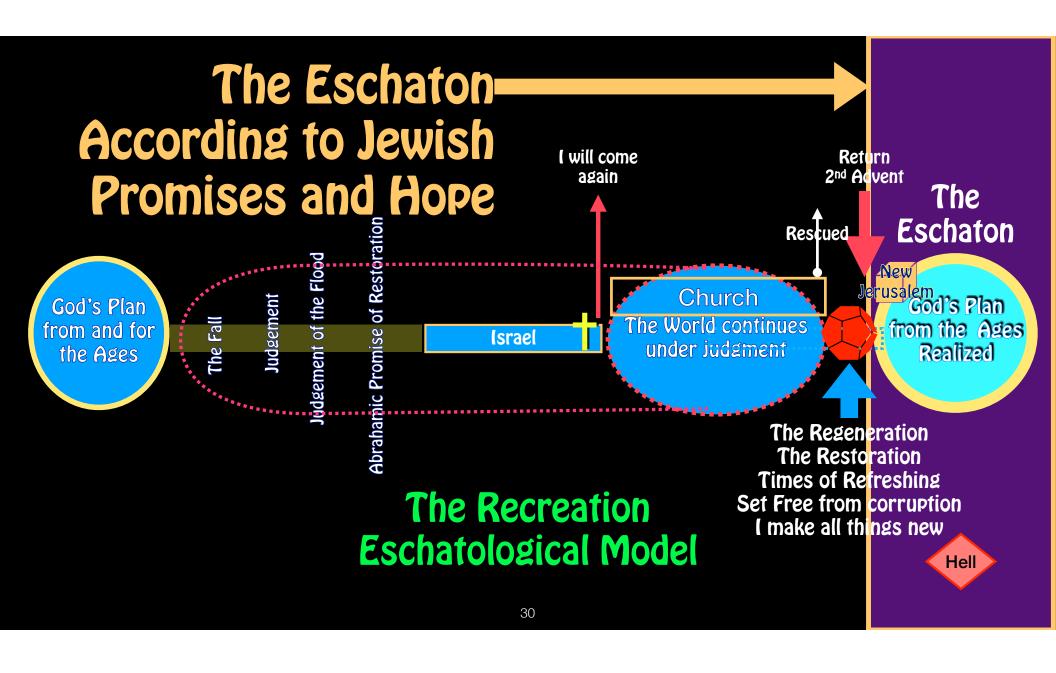
- ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- 11having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. Revelation 21:10–11

Isaiah 52:1— Revelation 21:18 O Zion Clothe yourself in your beautiful garments

• 18The material of the wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. 19The foundation stones of the city wall were adorned with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation stone was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald; 20the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst. 21And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. Revelation 21:18–21

Hebrews and the City of Hope

- Hebrews 11:10 "for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.
- Hebrews 11:16 "But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.
- Hebrews 12:22 "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,
- Hebrews 13:14 "For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come.



• 3There will no longer be any curse (lifted); and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; 4they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. 5And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever. Revelation 22:3–5

• 14Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city. Revelation 22:14

Historical Reminders

Foundation for Hope in the Future Zion-Kingdom

Redemption of the Nation

• ³For thus says the Lord, "You were sold for nothing (diaspora) and you will be redeemed without money." ⁴For thus says the Lord God, "My people went down at the first into Egypt to reside there; then the Assyrian oppressed them without cause. ⁵"Now therefore, what do I have here," declares the Lord, "seeing that My people have been taken away without cause?" Again the Lord declares, "Those who rule over them howl, and My name is continually blasphemed all day long. Isaiah 52:3–5

What Home Is Like!

• (Starting in Ezek 38-39) 6"Therefore My people shall know My name; therefore in that day (they will know that it is) I am the one who is speaking, 'Here I am.' " (Saying) 'How lovely on the mountains (Olives 2nd Advent) Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who announces peace And brings good news of happiness, Who announces salvation, And says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:6-7

The New and Redeemed Jerusalem

- (The 144,000?) *Listen! Your watchmen [prophets and preachers] lift up their voices, They shout joyfully together; For they will see with their own eyes When the Lord restores Zion. (Certainly implies a resurrection)
- Break forth, shout joyfully together, You waste places of Jerusalem; For the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. Isaiah 52:8–9

Redemption is completed

• 10The Lord has bared His holy arm In the sight of all the nations. That all the ends of the earth may see The salvation of our God. Isaiah 52:10

Redemption is completed

• 11Depart, depart, go out from there, Touch nothing unclean; Go out of the midst of her, purify yourselves, You who carry the vessels of the Lord. 12But you will not go out in haste, Nor will you go as fugitives; (in the Restoration) For the Lord will go before you, And the God of Israel will be your rear guard. Isaiah 52:11–12

Shifting to the Servant

• 13Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted. 14Just as many were astonished at you, My people, So His appearance was marred more than any man And His form more than the sons of men. 15Thus He will sprinkle (cleanse) many nations, Kings will shut their mouths on account of Him; For what had not been told them they will see, And what they had not heard they will understand. (saiah 52:13–15)

But Sadly—

- Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? Isaiah 53:1
- 6Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. 7"He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. Revelation 21:6-7

Thus Far—