

050



The Father Knows Best

School of the Bible Class

Isaiah

Isaiah 56-57

050

June 11, 2023

Donald L Goertzen Presenter

Indian Hills Community Church

Detectives looking for Eschatological Evidences in Isaiah

Tribulation and Kingdom Truth



Continuing

Please Join the Kingdom

- Last time we saw the great invitation, Hey, come to the waters—you who are thirsty! — When the thirsty are satisfied, all nature will rejoice in the Eschaton—in the Eternal Kingdom, on the Eternal Earth ruled by the Eternal Son of David.
- This chapter concluded with the precious truth that “My Word will not return to Me empty;” that is it will accomplish the purposes of God! Thus the Word is indeed a great treasure.
- Jesse’s last Sunday’s message on the Bible told us how unique and great it is. He quoted Henry Rogers—it is worth repeating!



Henry Rogers

- “This collection of books has taken such hold of the world as no other. The literature of Greece, which goes up like incense from that land of temples and heroic deeds, has not half the influence of this book from a nation despised alike in ancient and in modern times . . . It goes equally to the cottage of the plain man and the palace of the king . . .”



Henry Rogers

- “... Our best of uttered prayers are in its storied speech, wherewith our fathers and the patriarchs prayed. The timid man, about to wake from his dream of life, looks through the glass of Scripture, and his eye grows bright; he does not fear to stand alone, to tread the way unknown and distant, to take the death angel by the hand, and bid farewell to wife and babes and home”



Henry Rogers

- “... Some thousand famous writers come up in this century to be forgotten in the next. But the silver cord of the Bible is not loosed, nor its golden bowl broken, as Time chronicles his tens of centuries passed by.”



Henry Rogers

- “ . . . It is woven into the literature of the scholar, and colors the talk of the streets. It enters men’s closets, mingles in all the grief and cheerfulness of life. The Bible attends men in sickness, when the fever of the world is on them . . . It is the better part of our sermons; it lifts man above himself. ” Finis



Henry Rogers (1806-1877)

- “He was third son of Thomas Rogers, a surgeon of St Albans, where he was born on 18 October 1806. He was educated at private schools and by his father, of congregationalist views. In his seventeenth year he was apprenticed to a surgeon at Milton-next-Sittingbourne, Kent; reading John Howe's *The Redeemer's Tears* wept over *Lost Souls* diverted his attention from surgery to theology. After study at Highbury College, Middlesex, he entered the congregationalist ministry in June 1829. Wiki

The Word of God

We have the assurance that we can trust
the Lord's actions. Today and for tomorrow!

Joy In My Holy Mountain—in the Eschaton

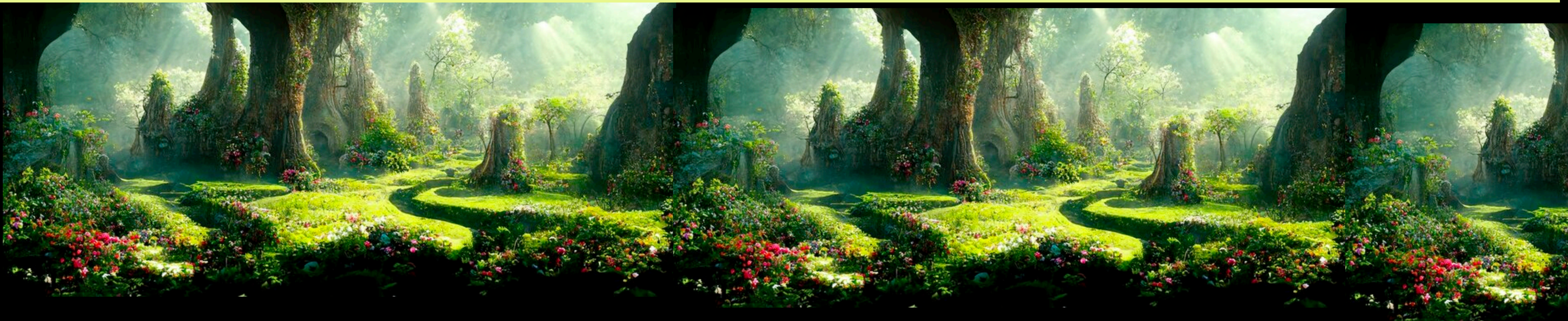
- 12“For you (Who have answered “I come”) will go out with **joy** And be led forth with **peace**; The **mountains** and the **hills** will break forth into **shouts of joy** before you, And all the **trees of the field will clap** their hands.
- 13“Instead of the thorn bush the **cypress** will come up, And instead of the nettle the **myrtle** will come up, And it will be a memorial to the Lord, For an everlasting sign which will not be cut off.” Isaiah 55:12–13

Restoration and Judgment

- The whole process of restoration challenges the mind. How can what we see be so **changed** yet still remain the **same thing**?
- I suppose that the expressions of extreme joy, full pleasure and contentment are used because it is a **hard thing** to comprehend.
- **Helping: The reverse process of judgement is restoration. The earth is the same but horrible misshaped.**
- It helps to remember the two global judgments that put creation in its present condition. Remember 2 Peter 3—comparison of one more?
- **If we have a hard time with the restoration processes it is because we have a diminished appreciation for the two judgments leaving us the world we live in.**

For Us then—

- After this doxology— at the beginning of the next chapter **we have our instruction** as we wait for the mountians to shout and the trees to clap their hands—



For Us then—Live out James

- ¹Thus says the Lord, “**Preserve justice and do righteousness,** For **My salvation is about to come** And My righteousness (is about) to be revealed.
- ²“**How blessed is the man who does this,** And the son of man who **takes hold of it; Who keeps from profaning the sabbath, And keeps his hand from doing any evil.”** Isaiah 56:1–2

The “Whosoever” Question is Answered

The invitation is tendered yet—are there exceptions?

The Whosoever Question is Answered

- ³Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to the Lord say, “The Lord will surely separate me from His people.”
- Nor let the eunuch say, “Behold, I am a dry tree.”
- ⁴For thus says the Lord, “To the eunuchs who keep My sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, **Isaiah 56:3–4**

The Whosoever Question is Answered

³Let not the **foreigner** who has joined himself to the Lord say, “The Lord will surely separate me from His people.”

Nor let the eunuch say, “Behold, I am a dry tree.”

- ⁴For thus says the Lord, “To the **eunuchs** who keep My sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, Isaiah 56:3–4



Gentile

Imperfect Body

Lev. 21:16 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 17 “Speak to Aaron, saying, None of your offspring throughout their generations who has a blemish may approach to offer the bread of his God. 18 For no one who has a blemish shall draw near, a man blind or lame, or one who has a mutilated....

The Priest to Serve—Perfection

- 17“Speak to Aaron, saying, ‘No man of your offspring throughout their generations who has a **defect** shall approach to offer the food of his God. 18‘**For no one who has a defect shall approach:** a blind man, or a lame man, or he who has a disfigured face, or any deformed limb, 19or a man who has a broken foot or broken hand, 20or a hunchback or a dwarf, or one who has a defect in his eye or eczema or scabs or **crushed testicles. (Deut 23:1 is emasculated)** 21’No man among the descendants of Aaron the priest who has a defect is to come near to offer the Lord’s offerings by fire; since he has a defect, he shall not come near to offer the food of his God. 22‘He may eat the food of his God, both of the most holy and of the holy, 23only he shall not go in to the veil or come near the altar because he has a defect, so that he will not profane My sanctuaries. For I am the Lord who sanctifies them.’ ” 24So Moses spoke to Aaron and to his sons and to all the sons of Israel. Leviticus 21:17–24

The Whosoever Question is Answered

- ⁵To **them** (the **stranger**, the **eunuch**) I will give **in My house** and **within My walls** a **memorial**, And **a name better** than that of (present) sons and daughters; I will give **them** an **everlasting name which will not be cut off**.
- ⁶“Also the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, To minister to Him, and to love the name of the Lord, To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath And holds fast My covenant; **Isaiah 56:5–6**

The Whosoever Question is Answered

- ⁵To them (the **stranger** the eunuch) I will give in My house and within My walls a memorial, And a name better than that of (present) sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name which will not be cut off.
- ⁶“Also the **foreigners** who join themselves to the Lord, To minister to Him, and to love the name of the Lord, To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath And holds fast My covenant; Isaiah 56:5–6

The Whosoever Question is Answered

- ⁷Even **those** (Stranger and Eunuch) **I will bring to My holy mountain**
And make **them** joyful in **My house of prayer**. **Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.”**
- ⁸The Lord God, who gathers the dispersed of Israel, declares,
“Yet **others** (Gentiles, Stranger and Eunuchs) **I will gather to (Jews)** them, to those already gathered.” Isaiah 56:7–8
- Even—⁹All you **beasts** of the field, All you **beasts** in the forest, **Come to eat**. (Join the righteous in “**my holy mountain.**”)

The Whosoever Question is Answered

- ⁷Even those (Stranger and Eunuch) I will bring to My holy mountain
And make **them** joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt
offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; For
My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.”

- ⁸T
“Y
th
● Ev
The mention of My house of prayer in “My holy mountain
points to the Melchizedekian Temple system in the
Kingdom. At least in the first 1000 years expression of it.
Why is the Temple there? The unrighteous will not be
purged until 1000 years have passed. (An idea.)

Come to eat. (Join the righteous in my holy mountain.)

But there is a Dark Reality

This is not an **imprecatory** section but a crafted argument

The next section is a rolling argument with those who pause in accepting the invitation.

First a statement of reality—their leaders have failed

Israel's leadership Has Failed


- ¹⁰His (Lord's) watchmen are **blind**, **All of them know nothing.**
All of them are **mute dogs** unable to bark, **Dreamers lying down, who love to slumber;**
- ¹¹And the **dogs are greedy**, they are **not satisfied**. And they are **shepherds who have no understanding;** They have all turned to their **own way**, **Each one to his unjust gain, to the last one.**
- ¹²**"Come,"** they say, **"let us get wine, and let us drink heavily of strong drink; And tomorrow will be like today, only more so."** Isaiah 56:9–12

Israel's leadership Has Failed

- ¹The righteous man perishes, and no man takes it to heart; And devout men (die) are taken away, while no one understands.
- For the righteous man is taken away (in his death is removed) from evil, (The righteous—) ²He enters into peace; They rest in their beds, Each one who walked in his upright way. Isaiah 57:1–2

The Blind Drunken Men

The blistering accusation begins

- 3“But (YOU) **come here** (and listen), you **sons** of a **sorceress**, Offspring of an **adulterer** and a **prostitute**. (Their leaders are born of evil.)
 - 4“Against whom do you **jest**? Against whom do you open wide your mouth And **stick out your tongue**? Are you not **children of rebellion**, Offspring of deceit, Isaiah 57:3–4
- 

Inflamed by the Thrill of Sexual Sinning

- ⁵Who **in flame** yourselves among the oaks, Under every luxuriant tree, Who **slaughter the children in the ravines**, Under the clefts of the crags?
- ⁶“Among the **smooth stones** (beds?) of the ravine Is your portion, they are your lot; Even **to them you have poured out a drink offering**, You have made a grain offering.
- **Shall I relent concerning these things?** Isaiah 57:5–6

Inflamed by the Thrill of Sexual Sinning

- 7“Upon a high and lofty mountain You have made your bed. You also went up there to offer sacrifice.
- 8“Behind the door and the doorpost You have set up your sign; Indeed, far removed from Me, you have uncovered yourself, And have gone up and made your bed wide. And you have made an agreement for yourself with them, You have loved their bed, You have looked on their manhood. Isaiah 57:7–8

Inflamed by the Thrill of Sexual Sinning

- 9“You have journeyed (far) to the (sexual) king with oil (offerings) And increased your perfumes; You have sent your envoys (efforts) a great distance And made them go down to (even to death) Sheol.
- 10“**You were tired out by the length of your road,** Yet you did not say, **‘It is hopeless.’** **You found renewed strength,** **Therefore you did not faint** (in your pursuit of sinning). Isaiah 57:9-10

A Twisted Moralism

- 11“Of whom were you worried and fearful When you lied, and did not remember Me Nor give Me a thought? Was I not silent even for a long time So you do not fear Me? (Argument often used,)
- 12“I will declare your righteousness and your (occasional) deeds, But they (deeds) will not profit you. Isaiah 57:12

Abandoned to their Choices

- 13“**When you cry out**, let your collection of idols deliver you. But the **wind** will carry all of them up, And a **breath** will take them away.
- ➔ ● Argument turns to the faithful: **But he who takes refuge in Me will inherit the land And will possess My holy mountain.”**
- 14And it will be said, “**Build up, build up, prepare the way, Remove every obstacle out of the way of My people.”**
(Similar but for different reasons) (Isaiah 40:2) Isaiah 57:13–14

Hope is in the Lord

- ¹⁵For thus says the high and exalted One Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, “I dwell on a high and holy place, And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit In order to revive the spirit of the lowly And to revive the heart of the contrite.
- ¹⁶“For I will not (retain this posture) contend forever, Nor will I always be angry; For the (human) spirit would grow faint before Me, And the breath (faint) of those whom I have made. Isaiah 57:15–16

There is a Wide Mercy with The Lord

- 17“Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry and struck him; I hid My face and was angry, And he went on turning away, in the way of his heart.
- 18“**I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and to his mourners,**
- 19**Creating the praise of the lips. Peace, peace to him who is far and to him who is near,”** Says the Lord, “and **I will heal him.”**
- **Isaiah 57:17-19**



Summary of the Blind and Dead

**20 But the wicked are like the
tossing sea, For it cannot be
quiet, And its waters toss up
refuse and mud. Isaiah 57:2**

Summary of the Blind and Dead

“There is no peace,” says my God,
“for the wicked.”

Isaiah 57:21



Summary of the Blind and Dead

“There is no peace,” says my God,
“for the wicked.”

Isaiah 57:21

Thus Far—

