The Slaying of the Serpent and the Salvation of the Saints

(Isaiah 27)

On the Day of the LORD, Satan will be defeated and destroyed, and the saints will be saved.

**The Slaying of the Serpent** **(v. 1)**

The saints cannot be saved until Satan, who held them in bondage (Heb 2:14–15), is slain.

* *Who is Leviathan?* Leviathan is a mythological monster that symbolizes Satan, the enemy of God and tormenter of His people (Genesis 3; Job 41; Psalm 74; Revelation 12, 20).
* *When is Leviathan slain?* “In that day” refers to the Day of the LORD, which must be understood as both already and not yet. The defeat and destruction of Satan was inaugurated at Christ’s first coming (Jn 12:31; Rv 12:9–10; 20:1–3), and will be consummated at Christ’s second coming (Rv 20:7–10).
* *How is Leviathan slain?* God has defeated Satan by the cross of Christ (Heb 2:14–15), is defeating Satan by the word of the gospel (Eph 6:17), and will defeat Satan by the word of judgment (Rv 19:15).

**The Salvation of the Saints (vv. 2–13)**

Isaiah celebrates five aspects of our salvation.

1. *The saints will be a fruitful vineyard (vv. 2–6).* Unlike Israel under the old covenant (Is 5:1–7), God’s people under the new covenant will be fruitful and faithful, because they will abide in Christ, who is the true vine.
2. *The saints have been preserved from destruction (vv. 7–8).* God preserves the lives of His elect unto the day of their conversion, rather than handing them over to the just judgment of their sins.
3. *The saints will have atonement for guilt and removal of sin (v. 9).* Their sins are forgiven through the death of Christ, and their sins are forsaken through the renewal of the Spirit.
4. *The saints will see the world judged (vv. 10–11).* The salvation of God’s people comes through judgment upon God’s enemies (the Exodus; Rv 20:7–10).
5. *The saints will be gathered into Zion (vv. 12–13).* Even now, sinners from among the nations are being gathered to worship the LORD in Zion through the trumpet blast of the gospel (Heb 12:22). But at the return of Christ, the final trumpet, the resurrection of the dead, and ingathering of the elect, salvation will be complete.