

Isaiah: Behold Your God!

**The Repentant Are Blessed in Jerusalem
Lesson 17
Isaiah 63:7-66:24**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
December 30, 2018*

Isaiah – Keys

- ▶ Two books or sections with 2 historical settings
 - Book 1: The Assyrian invasion - Jerusalem preserved
 - Book 2: The Babylonian captivity - Israel restored in the Land
- ▶ Major historical event in both sections: The Eternal Kingdom
- ▶ Two common themes for both sections:
 - Behold your God!
 - The just shall live by faith!

Isaiah – Outline

- ▶ Book 1 – Condemnation (Isaiah 1-39)
 - 1. The LORD speaks to Isaiah (1-5)
 - 2. Isaiah is called and sent (6)
 - 3. The coming Assyrian invasion (7-12)
 - 4. The LORD speaks to the nations (13-27)
 - 5. The LORD speaks to the nation (Judah) (28-35)
 - 6. The Assyrian invasion (36-39)
- ▶ Book 2 – Comfort (Isaiah 40-66)
 - 1. Comfort in the sovereign God (40-48) – theology proper
 - 2. Comfort in the saving God (49-59) – soteriology
 - 3. Comfort in the ruling God (60-66) – eschatology

Comfort in the Ruling God (60-66)

- ▶ The Kingdom of God on earth (60) – glory
- ▶ The deliverance which permits the Kingdom (61) – salvation
- ▶ Waiting for the Kingdom (62) – hope
- ▶ The judgments that come before the Kingdom (63:1-6) – justice
- ▶ Isaiah's prayer – response to his prophecy (63:7-64:12)
- ▶ The LORD'S response to Isaiah's prayer (65-66)

Isaiah's Prayer (63:7-64:12)

- ▶ The lovingkindness (HESED) and goodness of God (63:7)
 - Lovingkindness of the LORD
 - All that the LORD has granted us
 - **His great goodness toward the house of Israel**
 - Granted according to His compassion
 - The abundance of His lovingkindness
- ▶ The promise to Abraham (63:8)
 - My people – the great nation
 - Their Savior – the blessed nation

Isaiah's Prayer (63:7-64:12)

- ▶ The experience of God's goodness to Israel in history (63:9-14)
 - The LORD saved them from bondage in Egypt
 - Israel rebelled and the LORD became their enemy
 - They remembered the Exodus and entry into their Land
 - God's intent: make a glorious Name for Himself
- ▶ The current state of His holy and glorious habitation (63:15-19)
 - The LORD'S restrained zeal and compassion
 - The "failed" expectation of the Patriarchs
 - The "judicial" hardening of the hearts of Israel
 - The lost heritage of the LORD

Isaiah's Prayer (63:7-64:12)

- ▶ A call for the Sovereign Redeemer God to come down (64:1-7)
 - The example of His coming at Sinai
 - No comparable God
 - He acts on behalf of those who wait for Him
 - He requires righteousness
 - How can we be saved?
 - God requires righteousness
 - The people are under the power of their iniquities
- ▶ An appeal to God as their Father (64:8-12)
 - The Potter and the clay – the sovereign, unobligated God
 - A request for forgiveness
 - An appeal to the Promise – “Your people . . . Your holy city”
 - Will you restrain . . . keep silent . . . afflict us beyond measure?”

The LORD'S Response to Isaiah's Prayer (65-66)

- ▶ The grace of God to the Gentiles (65:1)
- ▶ The distinguishing grace of God (65:2-16)
 - A rebellious people “. . . following their own thoughts.” (65:2-7)
 - A believing remnant – “my servants” shall inherit the land (65:8-10)
 - Those who forsake the LORD . . . He will slay (65:11-15a)
 - My servants to be “blessed in the earth” (65:15b-16)

The LORD'S Response to Isaiah's Prayer (65-66)

- ▶ The coming Kingdom (65:17-66:23)
 - ▶ New Heavens and a New Earth (65:17-18; 66:22; Revelation 21-22)
 - ▶ The Pre-Kingdom – Millennial Kingdom (65:19-25)
 - The LORD will rejoice in His people and in Jerusalem
 - Blessing in the earth with curse reduced – no evil or harm
 - ▶ The people in the Kingdom (66:1-9)
 - A dwelling for God – not man-made (66:1-2a)
 - A regenerated people (66:2b)
 - A people destined for the LORD'S vengeance (66:3-6)
 - The Great Nation brought forth in a day (66:7-9)

The LORD'S Response to Isaiah's Prayer (65-66)

- ▶ Comfort in a Kingdom of joy and peace for all who love Jerusalem (66:10-14a)
 - The LORD will rule with a rod of iron (66:14b-17; Ps 2:8-9; Rev 19:15)
 - A universal Kingdom – all nations and all tongues will see His glory (66:18-21)
 - The security of the New Heaven and New Earth (66:22-23)
- ▶ Eternal wrath (66:24)
 - A terrifying final word
 - Eternal wrath

Final Observations

- ▶ The servant role of the nation Israel in the plan of God
 - Blessed – as a display of God's sovereign grace
 - Blessed – as a display of the loving faithfulness of God
 - Blessed – even greater as central to the eternal Kingdom
- ▶ The message of Isaiah . . . and the entire Bible
 - Behold your God . . . in Christ, the Servant of Israel
 - The just shall live by faith . . . in His Word and His Ways