

Isaiah

Chapter 1

13- Bring no more empty offerings, incense it is an abomination to me. The new moon and the Sabbath, I cannot endure calling of assemblies, sacred assemblies are iniquity¹.

18- Come now let us reason together says Yahoah for though your sins be as scarlet they shall be white as snow; though they be red like crimson they shall be as wool².

¹ The hypocrisy and disobedience of Israel had become so intolerable, that God loathed the offerings and the sacred assemblies, which He had instituted for them. The holy offerings had become empty. There was no faith in the coming Redeemer, and no sincerity and purity of heart by those who offered them. The worship and praise was worse than the tinkling cymbal and the sound of brass. It had become something so profane that God could not tolerate it any longer. By and large, you can say He shut down the entirety of the worship service for a nation; and consequentially for all of mankind.

If we think that God is going to take whatever we decide to give Him - we are wrong. The Lord's mercy endures forever; but when there is no truth, no desire to conform to His will, then there is only deception and vanity. When we want to do things our way regardless of what God says; then there is no fear of Him, no true awareness of His presence - and so all that we have to give is empty selfish religion. When people want to pray and worship over the top of sin and iniquity, then it is an empty offering offered in unrighteousness (Malachi 1:6-10; 3:3; Titus 2:14; Revelation 3:18; Acts 5:3; 2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 Corinthians 10:7-11). If there is no repentance, no sincere decision to turn away from sin and evil; then there is no forgiveness (Luke 3:8; 24:47; Acts 26:20; Hebrews 6:6; 2 Peter 3:9; 2 Timothy 2:25). If there is no forgiveness, then the offerer and the offering are both unholy and unacceptable to God. God does not get a special delight out of our gathering together unto Him. Rather, He gets delight out of true worship: worship that is done in Spirit and in truth. Otherwise, the assembly that is gathered in His name does no more than profane His name; and is obnoxious to Him.

Our offerings of praise and worship are to be holy and acceptable unto God (Romans 12:1; 15:16; 1 Peter 2:5). Our worship is to be by the Spirit, and like the holy incense brought into the holies of holies: pure and set on fire by God (Revelation 5:5; 8:3,4; Malachi 1:11; Luke 1:10; Leviticus 10:1; Numbers 3:4; 26:61; Malachi 3:3). If this is going to be a reality, then what we do unto the Lord must be done in sincerity and truth. There must be a holy reverence and fear of God in our midst. If we are going to give praise and worship to God in the way that He is looking for, then it must be done in Spirit and in truth (John 4:23). All of this God has provided, through the blood of Jesus and the Spirit of grace. All we must do is come with a broken and a contrite heart; and God will fill it with His presence and with His glory (Isaiah 57:15; 66:2).

² Come let us be reasonable: if God cleanses you from your sin, then every stain of it is removed. Though it be like the deep irremovable double-dye used to fix the permanent color of scarlet and crimson, the cleansing work of God's grace makes the once sin-stained soul of man as white as snow and wool. To continue on in sin and stubbornness is such great folly - when the grace of God is so rich and free. Even worse: to respond to His call and come for a cleansing, but refuse to believe and accept the results; this is catastrophic. If we come to Him to have our sins removed, yet believe that we still have the stain of sin and the effect of sin's work tainting our soul, then there is no faith no confidence in what God has done! Jesus would wash you from your sins, cleanse you, purge and purify you and with His blood - wipe your sins completely away (Revelation 1:5; 1 John 1:9; 2 Peter 1:9; Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 10:2; 1 Peter 1:22; Acts 15:9; Matthew 1:21; Matthew 26:28; Luke 24:47; Hebrews 10:18).

Repentance and remission of sins has been granted to all nations through the cleansing blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God (Luke 24:47). The people of Israel had become heavy-laden with continual sins in the days of the prophet Isaiah. They had become blind, and refused to see their iniquities. Their mouths were full of cursing others, and their hands were stained with blood - because of the way they had treated those that were around them, and because of how they treated God. Yet with all of their evil and hypocrisy, the loving

Chapter 2

3- And many people shall go and say, "Come let us ascend to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob: and he will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Lord from Jerusalem³.

and generous Creator of the Universe begged them to come and be cleansed. Unfortunately they refused; and as a result the wages of their sins and the refusal to accept God's way of escape brought destruction upon their lives. The hand of God was always there to deliver, but they refused to be cleansed; and their sins separated them from the glorious plan that God had for their lives (Isaiah 59:1-2). The wages of sin are death and destruction, and everyone who participates in sin is marked by its bloody stain of death. The gift of God is eternal life: that transforms men by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost in a new creation!

The Talmud reports that a miracle took place on the day of Purgation (Yom Kippur). A scarlet thread was tied to the entrance to the Holy of Holies. After the high priest confessed his sins and the sins of the people, the thread became white (V. Yoma, 67a; Rosh HaShanah 31b, Babylonian Talmud). According to Jewish tradition, this miracle ceased about forty years before the destruction of Jerusalem, which is about the time of our Lord's death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and exaltation. Jesus, who bore our sins in His own body, was clothed with a scarlet robe by the Romans (1 Peter 2:24; Matthew 27:28). Although we cannot fully rely on the accuracy of the Talmud, this one thing we know: when Jesus was executed for our sins, He put them to death - and through His blood wiped them out. When His body was torn open, so was the veil of the Holy of Holies; and an entrance into this Holy Place was provided for anyone who desires it (Matthew 27:51; Hebrews 10:20).

Are you washed in the blood the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb? Are your garments spotless, are they whiter than snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

³ The Lord God Himself is devoted to teaching us His ways and showing us how to walk in His paths of life. His ways are the ways of truth and of righteousness, and His path of life exists forever. Men were born into a world of sin and iniquity, into a world that delights in those things which God detests. Those in the world are taught from their earliest days everything that is contrary to the paths of righteousness and the ways of life. The world is schooled in the ways of iniquity and taught to love the path that leads to destruction. Men glorify the power that the devil and his demons give; they magnify the praises of fame and money. Men demand that sin and iniquity dominate our schools, workplaces, and centers of entertainment - for they are deceived by the god of this world. They teach their lies and doctrines of death, and think it strange that we do not run with it. If we do not participate in their sin and compromise with their iniquity, we are thought to be a strange and backward people.

Although men mock God and adore idols and strange religions, God in His love and mercy still provides a way of escape for all those who are willing. The blood of Jesus was poured out for the sins of the whole world, and God trembles with the deepest love, desiring all men to turn from sin. He commands all men everywhere to repent, and to come out of the world and be a separate people (2 Corinthians 6:17; 1 John 2:15-17). All that is in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life - belongs to a demonic realm ruled by the prince and the power of the air, the spirit of disobedience that works in the children of disobedience (Ephesians 2:2). The Spirit of the Lord cries out to all who will hear: "Flee from the coming wrath, and come to the fountain of life - and live." The blood of Jesus will cleanse us, and through it every demonic claim of death will be broken. The Spirit of the Lord will teach and equip us to stand strong against the enemies of the Lord, and against every spiritual wickedness (Ephesians 3:16; 6:10-11). If we commit treason against His kingdom through sin, the Lord allows us time to repent, and works with us to correct our outrageous behavior. The Holy Spirit patiently and persistently will show us how to love righteousness and hate iniquity; all we must do is come!

It will not be long and the mountain of the Lord (which represents His kingdom) will subdue all of the kingdoms of this world. Right now all of those who have been born of the Spirit have stepped into His kingdom, where Christ Jesus now reigns (Colossians 1:13; Ephesians 2:6; Romans 14:17; 1 John 4:17). We have come to Mount Zion - the city of the living God, the new Jerusalem (Hebrews 12:22). The laws of the Lord have been written on our hearts and minds so that we can keep them, and we even have God the Holy Spirit instructing us in them every day (Hebrews 8:10-11; 10:16; Jeremiah 31:33-34). The Spirit of the living God has been poured out upon us, and God who dwells in the midst of us speaks forth His word

Chapter 6

3-And the one called unto another and said Holy Holy Holy⁴ is Yahoah Of armies all the earth is full of his glory.

6- Then I said: "Woe is me for I am undone, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell among a people of unclean lips; for I have seen with my eyes the King, Yahoah of hosts."⁵

so that we can all say that we are taught by God (John 6:45; 7:38-39; 14:26; 16:13; Galatians 5:16,25; 1 Thessalonians 4:9; 1 John 2:20-21,27; Romans 8:4,14). God, who is righteous in all of His ways and holy in all of His works, invites all men to come and learn how to walk in the glory and splendor of His power. We may come now and live in His house, where we are established in glory and honor. He has given us His holiness, and is devoted to teaching us how it works and how to operate in it. He has given us His righteousness, and shows us how to wield its power and its life. He has given us access into His presence where life and peace, wisdom and knowledge, and an understanding heart are all found. He shows us the path of righteousness, and how to explore its deep and boundless regions. God, who created all things, has made us part of His royal and holy family: to be instructed in the ways of His majesty and splendor. All hell works to prevent us. Satan brings to bear every deception and temptation to lead us away from such a share in God's glory. Spiritual wickedness would attempt to prevent us; and the world, mad with darkness, would declare a "better" way. But God Almighty will help us. The Creator of the heavens and earth will establish us in His presence where there is fulness of joy, and at His right hand where there are pleasures forevermore.

⁴ The presence and being of God is sacred. He is righteous in all of His ways, and holy in all of His works (Psalm 145:17). We are called to come and worship Him in the beauty of holiness (Exodus 28:2; 1 Chronicles 16:29; Psalm 29:2; Psalm 96:9; Psalm 110:3; Isaiah 52:1). We are called to come to a sacred place: a place of awe and reverence of the awesome wonders - and the presence - of the giver of life and author of lovingkindness. If we really desire to come into the deeper realms of the fullness of God then we must be willing, through the act of our own will and choices, to cooperate with the Holy Spirit; and enter into a place of holiness. This place of holiness must be sacred to us, and we have to begin with the reality that God has made our lives holy; and therefore they must be treated in a sacred way. God made us His temple, and we must be willing to call His temple sacred; and not trespass against the holiness that He brought into our lives when he gave us His Holy Spirit and called us His holy ones (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 1 Corinthians 6:19; John 14:26; John 17:21-23; 2 Corinthians 6:16). Today, recognize that the One who is Holy has come to dwell with you, and in you. Honor Him and give Him the reverence that is due His presence - by yielding your members as servants to righteousness unto holiness (Romans 6:19).

⁵ We must have a great Holy Ghost conviction in our lives and in our church services. Without the conviction of the Holy Spirit, no one will truly repent and receive the miracle of salvation. Our church services should be like walking into the Holy of Holies. The awesome presence of God and truth of His word should confront everyone who walks in the door. Of course there will have to be the same devotion to God in our everyday lives if we are going to make room for the Holy Spirit to move like this. A life that is less than consecrated wholly for God will not afford much capacity for the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in any context.

When Isaiah encountered the presence of God, the conviction that came as a result of his encounter with the awesome Holiness of God left Him undone. Job had a similar response when the presence of God invaded his life; there he found himself completely abased (Job 42:5-6). The manifestation of God to man has always elicited fear and terror. In the presence of God's Holiness, a prophet who was consecrated to the Lord saw himself as a leper in a leprous world - in contrast to the purity of God. When we step into the presence of God and behold His purity, there is an immediate judgment and conviction against all sin. We cannot truly reveal the love of God without proclaiming the severity of His judgments (Romans 2:5; 6:23; 11:22; Hebrews 10:27-29; Ephesians 5:6). The goodness of God brings a healing remedy for our sin and iniquity when we cry out for mercy in His presence. Just as the seraphim brought a purifying coal from off the altar of God, the blood of Jesus is supplied to all who will believe; and all sin is removed and all iniquities blotted out. People must know that unless they repent, they will perish.

Chapter 9

6- For a child is born to us a Son is given to us and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Might God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace⁶.

7- Of the increase of His government and of His peace there is no end. Upon the throne of David and upon His kingdom to order it and establish it in judgment and in righteousness from now and eternally forever the zeal of Yahoah of armies shall do this.

Chapter 10

27 And it shall come to pass in that day that his oppression shall be taken off your shoulders, and his yoke from off your neck for the yoke shall be destroyed before the oil⁷.

In the presence of Jesus, even those nearest to Him fall down upon their faces and cry out "Holy!" The pure and spotless seraphim count themselves as nothing in the presence of His Holiness. They cover their faces and their feet, not counting themselves worthy to behold Him nor even serve Him, but cry out continually "Holy Holy Holy is the Lord!" (Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 4:8-10). All men should encounter some dimension of the Holiness of His nature and the wonder of His works when they encounter those who are filled with His Spirit of Holiness, and much more when they step into the congregation of the church - which is His fullness (Ephesians 1:22-23). We must pray for and yield to a greater Holy Ghost conviction in our lives and churches. If we want the results of former days, then let us observe their sermons.

⁶ Jesus was born for all of humanity. He left all of his Glory and Majesty to become a child for us. Because God so loved the world He gave us a Son. When Jesus entered into the world there was no room for Him among the crowds of busy people. When the angels of heaven appeared to announce the single greatest event in the history of men they did not come to the mighty of the earth but to the poor shepherds who quietly tended their flocks.

The Dayspring from on High came to be a light to the gentiles and to be the glory of the people of Israel (Luke 1:75-78; 2:32). He has come to give light to them who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death so that all mankind might know the way of peace (Isaiah 9:2). He came to deliver us out of the hand of our enemies so that we might serve God in righteousness and holiness all the days of our lives!

His name is wonderful in authority and power it is the only name given whereby men might be saved (Acts 4:12). And everyone who calls upon the name will be saved (Romans 10:13; Acts 2:21). Every tongue shall confess and every knee shall bow before the wonderful name of Jesus. The name of Jesus is not just Wonderful He Himself is a Wonder beyond all human comprehension. He is the personification of counsel being the One who has brought the answer to the need of everyman. He is the Mighty God who humbled Himself being born of a virgin and fashioned in the likeness of sinful flesh. He has come as the Champion of man, the Hero of Heaven and the One who conquered death and hell, Jesus the Mighty God. Jesus is Immanuel who is not only God with us but God in us today (Colossians 1:27; 1 John 4:4; John 14:23; 1 John 3:24). Christ Jesus who is the Eternal Word is also the Everlasting Father though unique from His Father yet One in majesty and glory (John 17:5; 21-23). As the provider of salvation and deliverance He is a father to the nations and to His people Israel (Isaiah 22:21; Psalms 72). And finally He is the Prince of Peace! He is the one who has come and imparted unto those who would receive Him the divine peace of the Holy Spirit. He has given a peace that goes far beyond world peace or any peace that may be found in the world, He has given us an undiminishing peace that nothing can take away. Until Jesus came there was no peace. At His coming the angels shouted, Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace good will towards men.

⁷ The yoke shall be broken because of the anointing! There is a special phrase used here that is not found anywhere else in the Hebrew bible, which is literally translated "before the oil." The imagery is that of one who is being anointed. As the anointing oil is being applied, the oppressor and his yoke are destroyed. It is because of the activity of the Spirit of God that the yokes of foreign oppressors have been broken. When Israel was a slave to Egypt, God placed His anointing on a man named Moses to bring deliverance to the

Chapter 25

1- Yahoah you are my God I will exalt you I will give thanks to your name for you have done wonders your counsel of old is faith and certainty⁸.

Chapter 26

captives; and break the strongholds of oppression. The book of Judges is filled with these kinds of men: such as Gideon, Barak, Samson, and Jephthah.

What each of us must realize that it is only by the special anointing of God's power that oppression and bondage are destroyed. If we are going to function in the divine power of the anointing that has been supplied to us today - in the greatest of all Anointed Ones: Jesus Christ - then we are going to have to learn to both yield to and come under the influence of the Spirit of God that has been given to us. It does not matter what the opposition may be, whether doubt and unbelief or sin sickness and disease; the oppression and yoke are only broken by the anointing. The people of God must come to realize that they need to be trained by the Holy Spirit to walk in such an anointing (1 Corinthians 2:1-5; 1 Corinthians 4:20; 1 Thessalonians 1:5; Ephesians 3:16; Ephesians 4:12; Romans 15:19). It is essential that God's people become involved with a church, and ministers who are themselves full of the Spirit; so that the yoke-destroying anointing of Jesus Christ might become effective in their lives.

⁸ There are a number of ways that we can translate the Hebrew phrase for "faithful and true." We have chosen to translate it "faith and certainty." The Hebrew phrase is 'emunah omen'; both of these words being derived from the Hebrew word 'amen'. The word "amen" was used many times by Jesus to express absolute certainty: "The very important concept in biblical doctrine gives clear evidence of the biblical meaning of 'faith' in contradiction to the many popular concepts of the term. At the heart of the meaning of the root is the idea of certainty" (Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, No. 116). If we are going to function in faith, then it is essential that we believe that all of the promises of God are "yes" and certain (2 Corinthians 1:20). They are not sometimes "yes" and then sometimes "no;" all of His promises are always "yes!" All of His wonders and counsels are unchanging. What He did yesterday He will do today; and what He has done for one, He will do for anyone else who will believe. God has given us an unlimited possibility; all we have to do is believe - for all things are possible for those who will believe (Mark 9:23).

The Old Testament lays the foundation for us to understand faith. Foundationally, faith is trusting God; it is faithfulness, it is truth, it is certainty, confidence, and absolute devotion. It was by this faith that Enoch walked with God and pleased God. It was through this faith that Abram left his native country and his family, to follow God into an unknown place (Hebrews 11:5-6; Hebrews 11:8). The cornerstone of Paul's declaration of justification by faith uses these same Hebrew words in Habakkuk 2:4 (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38). It is absolutely essential that we recognize that if we are going to walk in greater realms of faith, then we must find a deeper realm of relationship with God. We must find ourselves convinced of His promises, and walk away from all other alternatives. We must be willing to follow Him with absolute trust and certainty; and forsaking all others cleave only unto Him. So long as we have our false securities and our other options, we will only be allowed to step out just so far into the realms of faith.

We must place the word of God and His promises in a category all of its own. It must be exalted far above all intellectualism, knowledge, and reason - and be understood for what it is: absolutely true and superior to all other known things. It is the word of God that will inspire us to speak to a dead corpse and command it to live. It is the word of God breathed out by the Spirit of God that will command the devils, and they must obey. Today we can stand against all of the devils of doubt and unbelief, and overcome them by the word of our testimony, by the blood of the Lamb, and by not loving our own life even unto death. When all our senses of reason and every power of fear would attempt to lead us to trust in ourselves, we must rise up and hold fast our confession of faith without wavering - because God is faithful who promised!

3- You will keep in perfect peace the one whose mind is firmly-established for in you he trust⁹.

Chapter 30

13- Therefore this iniquity shall be to them as a break in a wall ready to fall as a bulging out in a high wall which suddenly in an instant shall come crashing down¹⁰.

⁹ The primary Hebrew word used for trust is 'batach' which expresses a sense of wellbeing and security that comes from having someone in whom you can place your confidence. The Septuagint never uses the Greek word for faith (pisteuo) to translate this word but rather the Greek word, which many translate hope (elpitzo) in the New Testament and should probably be translated confidence instead.

Those who trust in God will live in perfect peace so long as they keep their minds stayed upon God for God can be relied upon to keep all of His promises (Isaiah 26:3; Psalms 4:8). It is this peace that God has given us that guards our hearts and minds and protects us from straying away (Philippians 4:7). Those who put their trust in God will never be disappointed (Isaiah 28:16; 45:17; 50:7; Romans 9:33; 1 Chronicles 5:20). God has promised to direct their lives and lead them in the way that they should go (Proverbs 3:5-6). They shall walk in joy and gladness (Psalms 16:9; 33:21). Above all other things God has simply called out to mankind from the very beginning to trust Him (Jeremiah 17:7; Isaiah 30:15; Proverbs 16:20). We may safely trust in God because He has an unwavering loyalty of love for us. Everything that He has promised He stands over to perform for those who will only trust Him; trust Him now.

¹⁰ If we want to be right with God, all we have to do is REPENT. The mercy and forgiveness of the Lord is extended to any person who will not keep silent, but will acknowledge their transgressions and sins. If we cry out to God, He will come with shouts of deliverance, and set us free from our sin and our iniquity (Psalm 32:7). All of the past will be remembered no more, and we will be those who stand before God with neither sin nor deceit in our spirit (Psalm 32:2,5; 1 Corinthians 1:8; Philippians 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 2 Peter 3:14). If we are unwilling to acknowledge our sin, then we will discover that every sin has a consequence of death. As surely as the act of sin comes, so will the consequence and punishment for that sin (Romans 6:23). Therefore because sin has the inevitable effect of destroying the individual and/or the community, it must be rooted out (Joshua 6:18; Joshua 7:12; Joshua 22:18; Numbers 14:35; Judges 2:2-3; Isaiah 59:2; Deuteronomy 7:26; Haggai 2:13-14; Jeremiah 6:8; 1 Corinthians 5:13; Colossians 3:5-6; Revelation 2:16).

Those who are stubborn and rebellious will discover that God's hand is heavy upon them. Sin will be punished now and in the future. Those who will learn now will not have to endure the torments of an eternal punishment where there is no opportunity for change. Jesus was very radical about the subject; and simply said that if it is your hand that is the problem - then cut it off; if it is your eye - then pluck it out; because it is better to enter into life having one hand or one eye; rather than have your whole being destroyed in the fires of hell (Matthew 5:29-30; Matthew 18:8-9; Mark 9:47). Because of this great act of mercy wherein God does whatever possible to reach the soul of man, then the stubborn and disobedient child will encounter punishments that will cause their bones to wear out with groanings, and their health to be overthrown like drought in the summer (Psalm 32:3-4).

People have one of two choices: they can either be sensitive and obedient to the instructions of God, or they can be treated like a horse or a mule who needs bits and straps to obey. One thing is for certain: God in His mercy and love for us will not easily give up on working to bring an end to disobedience. We can rejoice however in knowing that if we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord; so that we will not be condemned with the world (1 Corinthians 11:32; Hebrews 12:5-11; 2 Corinthians 7:10).

If we will simply humble ourselves before the Lord and repent for our sin, and receive the power of the Holy Spirit to walk in holiness and obedience, then we will enjoy the abundant life. We will find ourselves surrounded by His loving mercy, and kept by His power (Psalm 32:10; 1 Peter 1:5). Our lives will be free of shame and condemnation, and we will enjoy the rulership of the Spirit of life (Romans 8:1-2). Our lives are supposed to be full of all the spiritual blessings freely bestowed upon us by Christ Jesus. We should only know perfect health and prosperity; and should be the people who stand out among all others because of the abundant life that we have received in Christ Jesus. Our peace should pass all understanding, our love should be divine, the joy that we know should be unspeakable and glorious - because we know and serve the Living God.

Chapter 32

15 Until I pour upon you the Spirit from on high and the wilderness become a fruitful garden and the fruitful garden be counted as a forest.

Chapter 43

1- And now this is what Yahoah says your creator O Jacob and He who formed you O Israel fear not for I have redeemed you and called you by your name you are mine.

2- When you pass through the waters I will be with you. And the rivers they shall not engulf you when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned neither shall the flame kindle upon you¹¹.

3- For I am the Lord your God the Holy one of Israel your Savior: I gave Egypt for your ransom, Ethiopia and Sheba for you.

4- Since you were precious in my sight you have been glorious and I have loved you therefore I will give men for you and people for your life.

15 I am Yahoah your Holiness creator of Israel your King.

16 This is what Yahoah says that made a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters.

17 He brought forth a might army the chariot and the horse, together they fell down never to arise they are extinguished quenched like a wick.

18 Remember not the former things and do not consider the things of the past.

19 Behold, I make all things new¹²! Now it will spring up, shall you not know it? Surely I open a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

¹¹ When you walk with God the things that the nations fear are no longer a threat to you. When God is your God all of the elements of nature that bow before Him cannot harm you. If we are willing to dwell in the secret place of the Almighty pestilence and disease cannot come near us (Psalms 91; Hebrews 11:33-34; Luke 9:1; 10:19).

God calls out to His people seven times in this section of Isaiah and says "fear not" (Isaiah 41:10,13,14; 43:1,5; 44:2,8). Jesus says today, "Let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid" (John 14:28b). As we continue to walk with God and come to know Him more we discover a love that cast out all fear (1 John 4:18). Through this discover we also come to function in a faith that works by love. We come to recognize that His promises are superior to every common sense realm of man. When we choose not to preserve our own life then Father will preserve it for us. In this place of absolute trust we discover that everything works out for our good and for our benefit as the Holy Spirit leads us into a relationship where God can cause us to shine as a light unto the world (Romans 8:28; Matthew 5:14). You are Gods chosen servant (John 15:16). He has called you and ordained you to every good and perfect thing that comes to us from the Father of light (James 1:17; 2 Peter 1:3; Ephesians 1:3). Every day God is leading us into a deeper dimension of the inheritance that He has for us, all we have to do is follow.

¹² The greatest enemy of the new things is old things. Unfortunately, the enemy of our past is constantly attempting to impose itself on us. But we must recognize that to move forward, we have to leave the past behind; we must find a way to cut it off from our present. In this passage of scripture, Isaiah is talking to a rebellious people who have refused to obey God. They all attended church, but refused to walk out a life of obedience. Their past responses to God were a miserable disaster. Yet the Lord planned a future for them, that would bring them into a greater glory than when He led them out of Egypt. To do this He would win the hearts of His people - with greater miracles than He had done when he parted the sea, and destroyed their enemies who attempted to hold them back from walking with Him. God desired to bring His people into such a glorious miracle of His grace and provision that they would not remember the former things, because the new things would be so much greater.

Chapter 48

18- Oh that you would have paid attention to my commandments; then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea¹³.

Even though Israel was already dispersed and Judah was heading into a captivity; God was planning out their return. He was making a way where there was no way, and providing a hope where there was no hope. He was willing to let go of all of their past transgressions, so that He could plan out a brand new day and a glorious future. We must realize that it is easy for God to forgive us, but it is hard for us to forgive ourselves. However, until we will forgive ourselves (as well as others) and let go of the past, we cannot move on into the future that God has planned for us. God is doing a new thing right now: it is springing up! But we must be willing to lift up our hands that hang down, and realize that God has brought to pass a brand new day (Hebrews 12:12-13; Isaiah 35:3-10). We must be willing to allow the failures and disappointments of the past to no longer guide our decisions and expectations. Rather, in confidence towards God, we must begin anew as though this is the first day that we believed. The confidence and the expectation of the promises of God must be allowed to become the excitement and anticipation of our hearts once again.

Faith in the promises of God is how we will step into our future, and live today in the Kingdom of God! If we allow the trials and failures of the past to turn our hearts from the expectation we once had in God, then we must face the fact that the word of God has been overthrown in our lives. Doubt and unbelief are the forces of hell that have come out against our faith; and we must deal with them as such. If we allow the forces of doubt and unbelief to overwhelm our lives, then there is no moving forward; but a staggering about in the torments of the past. Condemnations and discouragements are the heroes of darkness; and unless you put your trust in God, they will confine you to an eternal prison of darkness. It is time that we end our compromises with failure and mediocrity, and step into the certainty of our call to greatness in God! No matter how many situations and circumstances of the past say "it is not so," we must turn to the word of God and say: "It is!" We must forget those things which are behind, and reach for those things which are before us in God; we must press on! (Philippians 3:13-14). Let us see Jesus and no longer ourselves; let us lay hold on the heavenly vision. No matter what things may come to stop us, we must not be moved (Hebrews 12:2; Ephesians 6:12; 1 Timothy 6:12; 1 Peter 5:10; Colossians 2:7; Matthew 7:24-25; Psalm 1:3; Jeremiah 17:8).

¹³ The goal and strategy of Satan is obvious: it is his desire to rid the earth of righteousness or any similitude of the nature of God. The spirit of disobedience moves the kingdoms of men to a place of iniquity and lawlessness, in which the man of iniquity will be revealed (2 Thessalonians 2:7-12; Ephesians 2:2-3). We are embarking on the time period of the great falling away of those of God's people who give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils (2 Thessalonians 2:3; 1 Timothy 4:1). Paul warned of this deception, pleading that we allow no one to deceive us - for the wrath of God is coming upon the unrighteous and those who hold the truth in unrighteousness. The unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God, but will inherit the wrath of God (Ephesians 5:6; 1 Corinthians 6:9; Romans 2:8; Jude 1:14-15). Satan has been effective at hiding the reality that the wrath of God burns against all sin and iniquity (no matter who it is that commits it). Many have been convinced that sin is not that horrible and evil anymore, and that somehow God has grown tolerant and understanding of it. Instead of learning perfect obedience from the Spirit of Holiness, many today justify disobedience and fellowship with demon spirits. They refuse to believe that God will not be mocked and that the wages of sin is death (Galatians 6:7; Romans 6:23). Much of the church has lost any real reference point to holiness and purity. Constantly inundated by apostasy and the god of this world, discerning the line between good and evil has become blurred. In these last days, Satan desires to destroy the foundation so that the righteous have no place to stand. That foundation is Christ the cornerstone, and the testimony of the apostles and prophets.

If we would simply give heed to the commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ and come and dwell in Him, we would have a continual flow of peace like a river. Righteousness in our life would be as consistent and unstoppable as the waves of the sea. If we would only give place to the Spirit of Consecration and be willing to be led into the ways of the kingdom of God, we would discover the abundance of God's divine pleasures and confidence - which would result in all that belongs to the Father being realized in our

Chapter 58

14 - At that time you shall delight on account of Yahoah. And I will cause you to ride upon your high places of the earth. Also, I will feed you with the inheritance of Jacob your father, for the mouth of Yahoah has spoken¹⁴!

Chapter 59

21- As for me this is my covenant with them says Yahaoh, My Spirit that is upon you and my word which I put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth and from the mouth

everyday life. Wherever the Spirit of God is being manifested, demon spirits are driven back and the kingdom of God is revealed (Matthew 12:28). It is the life of Jesus that reveals the beauty and splendor of the kingdom of God. It is this everlasting kingdom and culture that we are to seek and desire for our lives above all other things. It is the life and ministry of Jesus that we are to lay hold of as a treasure, and pursue at the expense of all other things. If we will harken to the commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ and allow His word to abide in us, then we will have the conquering power that overcomes the wicked one (John 15:7; 1 John 2:13; 5:4-5; Revelation 3:21). Let the righteousness of Jesus Christ, who is the eternal life, flow like a mighty stream from your life by the Holy Spirit (1 John 1:2; Amos 5:24; Romans 14:17).

¹⁴ If you want your voice to be heard in the chambers of the Almighty God, then there are some things that you are going to have to do (Isaiah 58:4,9). If you want the glory of God in your life, and the increase in the anointing so that you can walk upon the high places of authority in God, then you must comply with God's demands (Isaiah 58:8; Deuteronomy 32:13). In Isaiah chapter 58, God describes a list of those demands.

We must be willing to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens; to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke (Isaiah 58:6). This in itself would be a revolution to the way many churches and those who attend operate. There would be no more holding people under a mandate that they cannot live free: from the tyranny set against the Kingdom of God, and from disobedience to God himself. It would be absolutely forbidden to walk in unforgiveness and resentment towards anyone. There would be a demand placed on living in the liberty and freedom that is in Christ Jesus. In this liberty and freedom we would walk by nature in the Spirit of Holiness. The bands of wickedness are broken when, as Isaiah said: the brokenhearted are healed, liberty is proclaimed to the captives, and the prison doors are opened to those who were bound (Isaiah 61:1).

It is essential that we recognize that we are to be separated unto a unique kind of fast. Instead of afflicting ourselves by not eating food, while all the time the nature and compassion of God is absent from our hearts, we must take hold of the knowledge of God (Isaiah 58:3). With the knowledge of God's will and the compassion of His heart overwhelming us, then we will give bread to the hungry, we will bring the poor to our houses, we will clothe the naked. We must understand that there is both a spiritual application as well as a physical. It is not just good enough to give humanitarian aid, for the spiritual food and the knowledge of the saving grace found only in Jesus Christ is far more important. We must also recognize, by context, that these things are first for our own house and the house of God (Isaiah 58:7; 1 John 3:17; Matthew 25:35-40). Many who are orphaned and cast off by society would easily come to Jesus through such compassion.

Should we be willing to see things God's way and do things God's way, then those of us who do will build the old waste places and raise up the foundation of many generations; and repair the breach between God and His people, and restore the paths of glory and greatness for the people of God to live in (Isaiah 58:12). We may recognize from Isaiah chapter 61 that a part of the gospel is not only the freedom to live the godly life of Christ Jesus and walk in splendor, in the anointing of joy, and the mantle of praise; but also building the ancient ruins and raising up the former desolations of many generations (Isaiah 61:4). All of these simply refer to the restoration of greatness in God and the blessing that God placed upon Abraham, which was then also given to his descendants (Genesis 12:2-3; Genesis 22:17; Genesis 24:1; Genesis 27:28-29; Genesis 28:14; Deuteronomy 33:13-16; Galatians 3:19,14).

of your seed and from the mouth of your seeds seed says Yahoah from now on until eternity¹⁵.

Chapter 61

1- The Spirit of the Lord Yahoah is upon me for Yahoah has anointed me to preach to the meek He has sent me to bind up those whose hearts are broken to proclaim liberty to the captives and to open prison doors.

2- To proclaim the acceptable year of Yahoah and the day of the vengeance of our God and to comfort all who mourn.

3- To appoint unto them who mourn in Zion to give to them beauty for ashes the oil of joy for mourning the mantle of praise for the spirit of dimness and calling them trees of righteousness the planting of Yahoah that he might be glorified.

4- And they shall build the ancient ruins they shall raise up the wastelands of former times and they shall repair desolate cities the wastelands of many generations¹⁶.

¹⁵ How could have God said more emphatically that we are to continue to speak His word? To declare from our own mouths all of His promises and blessings. As God commanded the children of Israel He commands us now and forever to not let the word of this law depart of our mouth but to recite it day and night that we may observe to do according to all that is written therein and then shall our way prosper and then shall we have understanding (Joshua 1:8; Psalms 1:2; Hebrews 10:23; Colossians 3:16; Philemon 1:6; Romans 10:8). When God refers to the law He is not just referring to the law of Moses but to everything that He has declared through the mouth of His prophets sense the world begin as well as to the New Covenant, which we now enjoy (1 Peter 1:10-12; Mathew 5:18; Romans 3:21; 13:8; Luke 11:49-51).

We spend way to much time speculating and talking about things that are totally irrelevant to what God has declared. If we find ourselves unsuccessful and lacking those things that God has promised then we should look to what is coming out of our mouth. Do we have God's word coming out of our mouth? His word being in our mouth is a declaration that we are the seed referred to as being part of the New Covenant. God promised to place His word in our mouth by writing it on our hearts and minds (Hebrews 8:10; 10:16; Jeremiah 31:33). We need to stop living by our own perception of things and our own rational interpretation of the events as men and circumstance would dictate. Our reflections and understanding of who we are and what we can do are meaningless heresy. We need to live by the word of God and speak His word to the wind and the waves of trouble and prophesy His blessings over our lives and even adverse circumstances.

¹⁶ esus stepped into the world of men and proclaimed that He was the one whom the Spirit of the Lord was upon. It was Jesus who came and broke the yoke of slavery from off of our necks. He destroyed the power that held us prisoner to sin and death, and has appointed us unto an abundant life (John 12:31; John 16:11; Hebrews 2:14; 2 Timothy 1:10; Colossians 2:15 ; Romans 8:2). In Christ Jesus we have been given splendor for ashes: He has anointed us with the Holy Spirit so that we may have joy unspeakable and full of glory. He has given us the mantle of praise, and made us the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus (John 17:21-23; John 15:11; 1 Peter 1:8; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Corinthians 5:21).

We have also been appointed by the Lord to live in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 2:6). Even as Jesus was anointed of God, we have also been anointed together with Christ, and given the baptism into the Holy Spirit and fire (John 20:21; 2 Corinthians 1:21; Acts 1:8; 1 Thessalonians 1:5). We have received His glory that we might testify of it; and live in days of heaven on earth (Deuteronomy 11:21; Matthew 21:43; John 10:10). The building of the ancient ruins and the restoration of the wastelands speak of more than just the reconstruction of Jerusalem and the land of Israel; it reveals that God's people will be reconstructed and empowered to show forth His glory in the earth (Ephesians 4:24; 2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 John 2:27; Ezekiel 36:26; Jeremiah 31:31-33; Hebrews 8:8-11; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Matthew 5:14).

The river of God that is in us is shown to be the life-giving power of God. Wherever the river of God's presence flows, life springs up. It flows into the wastelands, and they become like a fruitful garden paradise

5- The strangers shall stand and shepherd your flocks and the sons of the foreigners shall be your ploughmen and your vinedressers.

6- But you shall be called the Priest of Yahoah the Ministers of our God- He shall say to you eat the riches of the gentiles and in their wealth you shall boast yourself.

7- Instead of your shame double and for reproaches they shall shout in their portion. Therefore, in their land they shall possess double everlasting joy shall be unto them.

8- For I Yahoah love judgment hating robbery in burnt offerings and I will give a reward in truth and an eternal covenant I will cut with them.

9- And their seed shall be know among the gentiles and their offspring among the people all who see them shall acknowledge them that they are the seed which Yahoah has blessed.

10- Rejoicing I will rejoice in Yahoah my soul shall rejoice in my God for he has clothed me with the garment of salvation he has covered me with the robe of righteousness as a bridegroom priest with his turban and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

11- For as the earth brings forth her bud and the garden springs forth with the things sown in it even so the Lord Yahoah will cause righteousness to spring forth and songs of praise in front of all the gentiles.

Chapter 62

1- For Zion's¹⁷ sake I will not be silent and for the sake of Jerusalem I will not be quite until the brightness her righteousness goes forth and her salvation as a burning torch¹⁸.

(Isaiah 51:3; Ezekiel 47:8-9; Revelation 22:1; John 7:38-39). The blessings and giftings of God that have been given to us in Christ Jesus cause men to know that the power and presence of God is in the earth. Even as Laban recognized that the blessing of God had come into his house through Jacob, the world around us should see the blessing of God on our lives, and benefit from it (Genesis 30:27). Elijah stood up in the mantle of God's power; and when men confronted Him, they knew that they were confronting the power of the Almighty. The ancient ruins testify of God's dwelling place in and with mankind. Today we may once again walk with God in all of His glory, as we walk in the Spirit and discover that God has made us His dwelling place. God has taken the ruins of our lives and built for himself a holy tabernacle, a place where He can dwell. We have been given the opportunity to arise into the fullness of the measure of the maturity of the ministry of Jesus, and abide in Him even as He abides in us. The glory and majesty of the life of Jesus should therefore be revealed in us for all the world to see.

¹⁷ Zion is first mentioned when Jerusalem began to be established as the capital city (2 Samuel 5:7).

Although Zion was applied to the city of David which is in Jerusalem, to the Temple mount, as well as all of Israel; it was also used to identify the city of God that is to come in the new age, and that now exists in the heavenly realm (Revelation 14:1; Hebrews 12:22). God is the one who dwells in mount Zion, so the earthly Zion is only a pattern of that which already existed in heaven (Isaiah 8:18; Psalm 2:6; Amos 1:2; Psalm 48:1-14; Romans 11:26; 1 Peter 2:6). If there is going to be redemption for the earthly Zion, then there must be judgment and righteousness (Isaiah 1:27; Isaiah 4:4; Isaiah 33:5). Zion is built to be the glory of the whole earth; and the cornerstone on which it is built is Jesus Christ (Isaiah 28:16; 1 Peter 2:6).

When Zion is built and established in the coming reign of Christ Jesus, then there will be the glory upon every house that existed over Israel when the Lord brought them up out of the land of Egypt. Upon every house there will be a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night; and upon all there shall be the glory for a defense (Isaiah 4:5). The glorious culture of the Kingdom of God will last forever, and not one stake of Zion shall ever be removed; and neither shall any of the cords ever be broken (Isaiah 33:20; Isaiah 62:4-5). The Lord God Himself will come and reign in the earthly Zion: first Christ Jesus, and then ultimately the Father, Yahweh (Zechariah 8:3; Isaiah 59:20; Revelation 20:4,6; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Revelation 21:2). We have already been allowed to take part in this glory through the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire (Isaiah 35:10; Isaiah 51:11; Acts 2:3-4). Although it is not visible to all as it will be in that day, this same glory would be for us a defense against all that is in the world: the lust of the flesh, the

Chapter 65

16- He who blesses himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of Amen¹⁹ and he who makes an oath in the earth shall swear by the God of Amen because their former troubles are forgotten and hidden from my eyes.

Chapter 66

lust of the eye, and the pride of life. Let us come unto Zion and place all of our affections there (Hebrews 12:22; Colossians 3:1-2; Ephesians 2:6).

¹⁸ Israel was persistently unfaithful to God therefore God dealt her as a treacherous wife but did not divorce her (Isaiah 54:1). Instead He remains committed to bringing to pass the promises that He made to Abraham and to His descendants forever. Equally our heavenly Father has made a promise to Jesus through whose life we have been redeemed from every tribe and nation. There has been much unfaithfulness in the church, which was created to shine with the splendor and glory of the fullness of Christ Jesus. Yet, God remains faithful to us and will not rest until the church shines with the brightness of Christ Jesus.

Like Israel, many today have left off being faithful to God in their morals and conduct. We too have drawn near to God with our praise while ours heart were unfaithful to God. Some how we must return to God with all of our hearts and recognize that friendship with the world is and act of hostility against God (James 4:4). There must be the rebirth of a godly fear and a godly sorrow over sin. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a Living God (Hebrews 10:31). We must become convinced as Paul was about the terror of the Lord and not only persuade others but ourselves be impacted to the depths of our lives that the wages of sin is death (2 Corinthians 5:11; Romans 6:23).

The only way that there is going to be a turning from the compromises back to a place of faithfulness is if the watchmen (the ministers of the Lord) will no longer hold their peace (Isaiah 62:6-12). The Lord is dedicated to our perfection but what if those whom He has given for the perfection of the church remain silent and do not show the people their sin and their transgression? How long will the leaders of the people continue to err and justify their evil doings. The divorce their wives and say what have we done wrong. They befriend the world and serve themselves instead of serving God and His people. Surely God who is devoted to the perfection of His people and the glory of His church will not keep silent. Surely, He will chastise and plead with us as a Father pleads with a rebellious son. Our Salvation shines with the glory of His majesty and all the heavenly host now worships Him. Yet in the earth His name has become a byword among the heathen. His name is profaned by the continual transgressions of His people. Surely Father will not keep silent until His glory shines bright in the midst of a sinful and perverse world. Who will come and stand on God's side? Who will turn from the lust and excess of this world and follow Jesus?

¹⁹ The Almighty is the Amen God! He is the One who has made covenants and promises that He has sworn to keep. He is also the One who has vowed Himself to perform those things which He has promised (Romans 4:21). As the One who is the Amen He is the faithful and true witness (Revelation 3:14). To swear in the Old Testament was to give one's sacred unbreakable word. God allowed Israel to make vows in His name in order to enforce the value of their vows (Deuteronomy 6:13; Isaiah 19:18; 1 Kings 1:36). God Himself made an oath to Abraham in order to assure him that what He had promised would surely come to pass (Genesis 22:16; Hebrews 6:13).

The Amen God is the one who vows to keep His covenants and promises. He also demands that His people vow themselves to His covenant and promises (Deuteronomy 27:15-16; Numbers 5:22). Thus both the blessing and the oath are coupled with the one who is the Amen. Amen is a Semitic equivalent to both 'pistos' (faithful) and 'alethinos' (true) bore out by the way that the Septuagint translates it. It is also used as a word of praise being paired with Hallelujah (1 Chronicles 16:36; Nehemiah 5:13, 8:6; Revelation 19:4; 7:12). It may be used as a statement of acknowledging that what was spoken was directly from God or a faithful transmission of what God had said (1 Corinthians 4:16). It can be used as a declaration of divine authority as in 1 Kings 1:36; Jeremiah 28:6. But most of all it is a declaration that God is faithful and true concerning everything that He has spoken (2 Corinthians 1:20; Rev 5:14).

2- For all these my hand has made and all of these have been declares YHWH. But to this I will look to the humble and contrite spirit and trembling at my word²⁰.

²⁰ Father made known the kind of disposition that is essential if a person wants to have a relationship with Him. Men have learned how to live lives of deceit. Their relationships with one another are not rooted in love but in selfish motivations. God has invited us into a relationship with himself but He will not tolerate the impure motives and lies that men have been governed by. When we respond to Gods call to fellowship He provides us with the Spirit of truth and takes away the dark and stony heart of deception. When we behold the glory and power of God we can do nothing less than fall down in humility and thanksgiving for His loving kindness towards us. If we will take up such a life of truth that produces humility and neediness then God will come and be our helper and eternal friend.

The Lord does not want to be honored with mere flattery and superficiality. He is not impressed with fashionable architecture and gold plated things. If He is going to dwell anywhere it is going to be in a place where there is truth and purity. God does not want to be housed He wants to be loved (Deuteronomy 6:5; John 14:23). Men become so wrapped up in their religious practices that they loose sight of the reality of God and who He is. Steven addressing the leaders of Israel (who were blinded by their tradition) quoted the first potion of this passage just before he was stoned (Acts 7:49-50).

God dwells in the highest place of glory above all things. He is not there in arrogance and domination but in humility and purity. Those who are going to know God and inhabit eternity with Him must also take upon themselves the form of a servant and be clothed with humility (Isaiah 57:15; Matthew 18:1-4; Mark 1:44). Greatness in the kingdom of men arises out of greed and domination but greatness in the Kingdom of God is found in humility and servitude. Jesus made it clear that those who love him and keep his word will be loved of the Father and that They will come and make there dwelling with them (John 14:23). If the person of God and the uncompromising position of His word does not become a reality to us then we will never humble ourselves before the Most High and truly be His obedient servants.