# Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—Isaiah's Apocalypse (c. 704–702 BC)

#### Isaiah 24-27

# The Tribulation—God's Judgment on a Wicked World

24:1 Look! Yahweh is about to lay the earth waste

and is about to devastate it,

and he will twist her surface,

and he will scatter her inhabitants.

2 And it shall be as with the people, so with the priest;

as with the slave, so with his master;

as with the female slave, so with her mistress;

as with the buyer, so with the seller;

as with the lender, so with the borrower;

as with the creditor, so with the one to whom he lends.

The earth shall be utterly laid waste, and it shall be utterly plundered,

for Yahweh has spoken this word.

#### The Tribulation—The Sinfulness of Men

4 The earth dries up, it withers;

the world languishes, it withers.

The elevated of the people of the earth languish,

5 and the earth is defiled beneath its inhabitants.

For they have transgressed laws;

they have passed by statutes;

they have broken the everlasting covenant.

6 Therefore a curse devours the earth,

and the inhabitants in it suffer for their guilt.

Therefore the inhabitants of the earth burn,

and few men are left.

#### The Tribulation—Life Without God

7 The new wine dries up;

the vine languishes.

All the merry of heart sigh;

8 the joy of the tambourine has stopped.

The noise of *the* jubilant has ceased;

the joy of the lyre has stopped.

9 They do not drink wine with song;

strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.

10 The city of emptiness is broken;

every house is shut so that no one can enter;

11 there is an outcry over the wine in the streets.

All joy turns into darkness;

the joy of the earth disappears.

12 Desolation is left in the city;

the gate is crushed into a state of ruin.

# The Tribulation—A Righteous Remnant Will Survive God's Judgment

13 For it shall be like this in the midst of the earth,

among the nations,

like the beating of an olive tree,

like gleanings when a grape harvest is at an end.

14 They lift up their voices; they sing for joy;

they shout out from the west over the majesty of Yahweh.

15 Therefore glorify Yahweh in the east,

the name of Yahweh the God of Israel in the coastlands of the sea.

16 We hear songs from the edge of the earth:

"Glory to the righteous one!"

## The Tribulation—The Wicked, However, Cannot Escape

But I say, "Ruin to me! Ruin to me! Woe to me! The treacherous ones deal treacherously, and the treacherous ones deal treacherously with treachery!"

17 Terror and *the* pit and *the* snare *are* upon you, inhabitants of the earth! 18 And this shall happen:

The one who flees from the sound of the terror shall fall into the pit, and the one who goes up from inside the pit shall be caught in the snare, for *the* windows from heaven are opened, and *the* foundations of *the* earth tremble.

19 The earth is utterly broken;

the earth is torn asunder; the earth is shaken violently.

20 The earth staggers to and fro like the drunkard, and it sways like a hut, and its transgression is heavy upon it, and it falls and does not rise again.

## The Second Coming—Christ Returns

21 And this shall happen on that day:

Yahweh will punish the host of heaven in heaven, and the kings of the earth on the earth.

- And they will be gathered *in* a gathering, *like* a prisoner in a pit.

  And they will be shut in a prison and be punished after many days.
- 23 And the full moon will be ashamed and the sun will be ashamed, for Yahweh of hosts will rule on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before his elders *in* glory.

## The Millennium—Rejoicing in Messiah's Reign

25:1 Yahweh, you are my God; I will exalt you.

I will praise your name,

for you have done wonderful things,

plans of old, in faithfulness, trustworthiness.

2 For you have made the city a heap,

the fortified city a ruin,

the palace of foreigners is no longer a city;

it will never be rebuilt.

3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;

a city of ruthless nations, they will fear you.

4 For you have been a refuge to the poor,

a refuge to the needy in his distress,

a shelter from the rainstorm,

a shade from the heat.

For the breath of the ruthless was like a rainstorm against a wall,

5 the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry land.

You subdued the heat with the shade of a cloud;

the song of the ruthless was silenced.

# The Millennium and the Eternal State—God's Joyous Feast

And on this mountain Yahweh of hosts will make for all peoples a rich feast, a feast of aged wines, fat filled with marrow, filtered aged wine.

- 7 And on this mountain he will destroy the face of the shroud, the shroud over all peoples,
  - and the woven covering over all nations.
- He will destroy death forever, and the Lord Yahweh will wipe off *the* tears from all faces, and he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth, [1 Cor 15:54; Rev 7:17; 21:4]

for Yahweh has spoken.

### The Millennium—Praise for God's Deliverance

9 And one will say, on that day,

"Look! This *is* our God! We have waited for him and he saved us! This *is* Yahweh; we waited for him! Let us be glad, and let us rejoice in his salvation."

- 10 For the hand of Yahweh will rest on this mountain, and Moab shall be trampled down under him as a heap of straw is trampled down in waters of a dung heap.
- And it will spread out its hands in the midst of it, just as the swimmer spreads out to swim, and its pride will be brought low with the movement of its hands.
- And he will throw down the fortification of the high point of your walls; he will bring *it* low; he will send it to the ground, to *the* dust.

## The Millennium—A Song of Trust in God

26:1 On that day, this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

"We have a strong city; he sets up victory *like* walls and ramparts!

- 2 Open the gates so that the righteous nation who keeps faithfulness may enter!
- You will protect a firm inclination *in* peace, *in* peace because he trusts in you.
- 4 Trust in Yahweh forever,

for in Yah, Yahweh you have an everlasting rock.

5 For he has thrown down the inhabitants of the height,

he lays low the lofty city.

He lays it low to the ground;

he throws her to the dust.

6 The foot tramples it,

the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy."

## The Present—Isaiah's Lament While Waiting for God's Salvation

- 7 The way of the righteous is a straight path; you clear the level path of the righteous.
- 8 Surely we wait for you *in* the path of your judgments, Yahweh, for your name and renown *are the* desire of *the* soul.
- 9 I desire you with all my soul in the night; also I seek you with my spirit within me, for when your judgments are upon the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.
- 10 Though the wicked person is shown compassion, he does not learn righteousness;

he acts unjustly in *the* land *of* uprightness, and he does not see the majesty of Yahweh.

#### The Present—Isaiah's Anticipation of Future Salvation

11 Yahweh, though your hand reaches high, they do not see it.

Let them see, and let them be ashamed of *the* zeal of people. Indeed, let the fire of your enemies consume them.

- 12 Yahweh, you will establish peace for us,
  - for you have done even all of our works for us.
- 13 Yahweh, our God, lords besides you ruled over us, but we praise your name alone.
- 14 The dead do not live;
  - dead spirits do not rise
  - because you have punished and destroyed them, and you have destroyed all memory of them.
- 15 You have added to the nation, Yahweh.
  - You have added to the nation; you are honored.
  - You have extended all the ends of the land.
- 16 Yahweh, in distress they have visited you;
  - they poured out an incantation;
  - your discipline was on them.
- 17 Like a pregnant woman on the point of giving birth, she writhes; she cries in her labor pains.

So we were because of your presence, Yahweh.

18 We became pregnant, we writhed;

we gave birth to wind.

We cannot bring about deliverance on the earth, and no inhabitants of the world are born.

19 Your dead shall live; their corpses shall rise.

Wake up and sing for joy, dwellers of the dust,

for your dew is celestial dew,

and the earth will give birth to dead spirits.

#### The Present—Isaiah's Warning of Hardship Before the End

20 Go, my people, enter into your chambers

and shut your doors behind you;

hide for a very little while, [Heb 10:37]

until the wrath has passed over.

21 For look! Yahweh is about to come out from his place

to punish the iniquity of the inhabitants of the earth against him,

and the earth will disclose her blood

and will no longer cover her slain.

### The Millennium—The Defeat of Satan

27:1 On that day, Yahweh will punish with his cruel, great and strong sword Leviathan, *the* fleeing serpent, and Leviathan, *the* twisting serpent, and he will kill the sea monster that *is* in the sea.

## The Millennium—The Future Blessing of Israel

2 On that day:

"A vineyard of beauty! Sing in praise of it!

I, Yahweh, am her keeper;

I water it again and again.

Lest one afflict harm on it,

I guard it night and day;

4 I have no wrath.

Whatever gives me thorns and briers, I will step forth against in battle.

I will set it on fire alterether.

I will set it on fire altogether.

- Or let it grasp at my protection; let it make peace with me; peace let it make with me."
- Days are coming, let Jacob take root; Israel will blossom and send out shoots, and they will fill *the* face of *the* world *with* fruit.

## The Present—Judah Will Be Exiled for Her Sin / Blessing Comes After Judgment and Discipline

7 Does he strike him as he struck down those who struck him?

Or is he killed as those who killed him were killed?

8 By expelling her, by her sending away, you argue with her. He removed *them* with his strong wind,

in the day of the east wind.

- 9 Therefore by this he will make atonement *for* the guilt of Jacob, and this *will be* all of *the* fruit *of* the removal of his sin: [Rom 11:27] when he makes all *the* stones of *the* altar like crushed stones of chalk, no poles of Asherah worship or incense altars will stand.
- For the fortified city is solitary, a settlement deserted and forsaken, like the wilderness; the calf grazes there, lies down there and destroys its branches.
- 11 When its branches are dry, they are broken; women *are* coming *and* setting light to it.

For it is not a people of understanding;

therefore his maker will not have compassion on him, and his creator will not show him favor.

## The Millennium—A Regathering to Worship

12 And this shall happen:

on that day, Yahweh will thresh from the floodwaters of the Euphrates to the wadi of Egypt, and as for you, you will be gathered one by one, sons of Israel.

13 And this shall happen:

on that day, a great trumpet will be blown,

and those who were lost in the land of Assyria will come, and those who were scattered in the land of Egypt,

and they will bow down to Yahweh on the holy mountain at Jerusalem.

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