Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—The Millennial Glory of Zion (c. 689 BC)

- 1 "Arise, shine! For your light has come, and the glory of Yahweh has risen on you.
- 2 For look! darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples, but Yahweh will rise on you, and his glory will appear over you.
- And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the bright light of your sunrise.
- 4 Lift up your eyes all around and see!
 All of them gather; they come to you.
 Your sons shall come from afar,
 and your daughters shall be looked after on *the* hip.
- Then you shall see and you shall be radiant; and your heart shall tremble and open itself wide, because the abundance of the sea shall fall upon you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young male camels of Midian and Ephah. All those from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and frankincense, and they shall proclaim the praise of Yahweh.
- 7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you; the rams of Nebaioth shall serve you.

 They shall present a sacrifice for favor *on* my altar, and I will glorify my honorable house.
- Who *are* these? They fly like *a* cloud, and like doves to their coops.

Because the coastlands wait for me,

9

- and the ships of Tarshish *are* first to bring your children from afar, their silver and gold with them, for the name of Yahweh your God, and for the holy one of Israel, because he has glorified you.
- And foreigners shall build your walls, and their kings shall serve you, for in my anger I struck you, but in my favor I have taken pity on you.
- And your gates shall continually be open, day and night they shall not be shut, to bring you *the* wealth of nations, and their kings shall be led.
- For the nation and the kingdom that will not serve you shall perish, and the nations shall be utterly devastated.
- The glory of Lebanon shall come to you; the cypress, the plane, and the pine together, to glorify the place of my sanctuary, and I will do honor to the place of my feet.
- And the children of those who oppressed you shall come to you bending low, and all those who treated you disrespectfully shall bow down at the soles of your feet. And they shall call you the city of Yahweh, Zion of the holy one of Israel.
- Instead of you being forsaken and hated with no one passing through,
 I will make you an everlasting object of pride,

a joy of coming generations.

And you shall suck *the* milk of nations, and suck *the* breast of kings, and you shall know that I *am* Yahweh your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Strong One of Jacob.

17 Instead of bronze I will bring gold, and instead of iron I will bring silver, and instead of wood, bronze, and instead of stones, iron.

And I will appoint peace as your overseer, and righteousness as your ruling body.

 Violence shall no longer be heard in your land; devastation or destruction on your borders.
 And you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates, Praise.

19 The sun shall no longer be your light by day, and for bright light the moon shall not give you light, but Yahweh will be your everlasting light, and your God your glory.

20 Your sun shall no longer go down, and your moon shall not wane, for Yahweh himself will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall come to an end.

21 And all your people *shall be* righteous; they shall take possession of *the* land forever, the shoot of his planting, the work of my hands, to show my glory.

The small *one* shall become *a* tribe, and the smallest one a mighty nation.

I *am* Yahweh; I will hasten it in its time."

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—The Messiah Announces God's Favor (c. 689 BC)

Isaiah 61

The Messiah's First Coming

1 The Spirit of the Lord Yahweh is upon me, because Yahweh has anointed me, he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim release to the captives and liberation to those who are bound,

to proclaim the year of Yahweh's favor, [Luke 4:16-21]

The Messiah's Second Coming

2a

2b and our God's day of vengeance, to comfort all those in mourning,

to give for those in mourning in Zion, to give them a head wrap instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, a garment of praise instead of a faint spirit. And they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of Yahweh, to show his glory.

4 And they shall build *the* ancient ruins, they shall erect *the* former deserted *places*. And they shall restore *the* devastated cities, *the* deserted *places* of many generations.

5 And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and foreigners *shall be* your farmers and vinedressers.

You shall eat the wealth of the nations, and you shall boast in their riches. 7 Instead of your shame, a double portion, and instead of insult, they will rejoice over their portion.

But you shall be called the priests of Yahweh,

you will be called servers of our God.

Therefore they will take a double portion in their land; they shall possess everlasting joy.

8 For I, Yahweh, love justice, hate robbery and injustice, and I will faithfully give their reward, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

9 And their descendants will be known among the nations, and their offspring in the midst of the peoples. All those who see them shall recognize them, that they are descendants whom Yahweh has blessed.

10 I will rejoice greatly in Yahweh; my being shall shout in exultation in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns himself with a head wrap like a priest,

For as the earth produces its sprout, and as a garden makes its plants sprout, so the Lord Yahweh will make righteousness sprout, and praise before all the nations.

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewelry.

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—Transformation of Zion (c. 689 BC)

Isaiah 62

For the sake of Zion I will not be silent, 1 and for the sake of Jerusalem I will not maintain a guiet attitude, until her righteousness goes out like the bright light, and her salvation burns like a torch.

2 And the nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you will be called a new name that the mouth of Yahweh will designate.

3 And you shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of Yahweh, and a headband of royalty in the hand of your God.

4 It shall no longer be said of you, "Forsaken," and it shall no longer be said of your land, "Desolation!" but you will be called "My Delight Is In Her," and your land, "Married," for Yahweh delights in you, and your land shall be married.

5 For as a young man marries a virgin, so shall your sons marry you, and as is the joy of the bridegroom over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

6 I have appointed watchmen upon your walls, Jerusalem; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who profess Yahweh have no rest.

7 And you must not give him rest until he establishes, and until he makes Jerusalem an object of praise in the earth.

8 Yahweh has sworn by his right hand, and by his mighty arm, "Surely I will never again give your grain as food to your enemies, and surely foreigners shall not drink your new wine at which you have labored."

- 9 But those who gather it shall eat it, and they shall praise Yahweh,
 - and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.
- 10 Pass through, pass through the gates!

Make the way clear for the people!

Pile up, pile up the highway; clear it of stones!

Lift up an ensign over the peoples!

11 Look! Yahweh has proclaimed to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion, "Look, your salvation is coming! Look, his reward is with him, and his reward before him.

12 And they shall call them "The Holy People, The Redeemed Of Yahweh,"

and you shall be called "Sought After, A City Is Not Forsaken."

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—Edom: God's Judgment in Miniature (c. 689 BC)

Isaiah 63:1-6

- 1 Who *is* this, coming from Edom,
 - from Bozrah in bright red garments?
 - Who is this honored in his garment,
 - lying down in his great strength?
 - "It is I, speaking in justice,
 - mighty to save!"
- 2 Why are your garments red,
 - and your garments like he who treads in the winepress?
- 3 "I have trodden the winepress alone,
 - and there was no man from the peoples with me.
 - And I trod them in my anger,
 - and I trampled them in my wrath,
 - and spattered their juice on my garments,
 - and stained all my clothing,
- 4 for the day of vengeance was in my heart,
 - and the year of my blood-vengeance has come!
- 5 And I looked, but there was no helper,
 - and I was appalled, but there was no one who sustains,
 - so my arm came to assist me,
 - and my wrath was what sustained me.
- 6 And I trampled peoples in my anger,
 - and I made them drunk in my wrath,
 - and I brought their juice down to the earth."

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—God's Mercy Remembered (c. 689 BC)

Isaiah 63:7-14

- I will mention the loyal love of Yahweh, the praises of Yahweh, according to all that Yahweh has done for us, and *the* greatness of goodness to the house of Israel that he has done to them according to his mercy and the abundance of his loyal love.
- 8 And he said, "Surely my people are children; they will not break faith." And he became a Savior to them.
- In all their distress, there was no distress, and the messenger of his presence saved them, in his love and compassion he himself redeemed them, and he lifted them up, and he supported them all the days of old.

10 But they were the ones who rebelled,

and they grieved his Holy Spirit,

so he became an enemy to them;

he himself fought against them.

11 Then his people remembered the days of old, of Moses.

Where is the one who led up them from the sea with the shepherds of his flock?

Where is the one who puts his Holy Spirit inside him,

who made his magnificent arm move at the right hand of Moses,

who divided the waters before them,

to make an everlasting name for himself,

who led them through the depths?

They did not stumble like a horse in the desert;

14 like cattle in the valley *that* goes down, the Spirit of Yahweh gave him rest,

so you lead your people to make a magnificent name for yourself.

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—Isaiah's Prayer of Penitence (c. 689 BC)

Isaiah 63:15-64:12

63:15 Look from heaven.

and see from the lofty residence of your holiness and glory.

Where are your zeal and strength?

Your compassion and mercy to me hold themselves back.

16 For you are our father, although Abraham does not know us,

and Israel does not acknowledge us.

You, Yahweh are our father,

Our Redeemer from of old is your name.

17 Why do you make us wander, Yahweh?

You harden our heart from your ways so that we do not fear you.

Turn back for the sake of your servants,

the tribes of your inheritance.

18 Your holy people took possession for *a* little *while*;

our adversaries have trampled down your sanctuary.

19 We have been since antiquity; you did not rule them;

they were not called by your name.

64:1 Would that you would tear the heavens and come down;

the mountains would quake before you,

2 as fire kindles brushwood,

the fire causes water to boil,

to make your name known to your adversaries,

that the nations might tremble from your presence.

When you did terrible deeds *which* we did not expect, you came down;

the mountains quaked because of your presence.

4 And since ancient *times* they have not heard,

have not listened,

no eye has seen a God except you;

he acts for the one who waits for him.

5 You meet with the one who rejoices,

one who does righteousness.

In your ways they remember you.

Look! You were angry and we sinned against them *in* ancient *times* and we were saved.

6 And we all have become like the unclean,

and all our deeds of justice like a menstrual cloth,

And we all wither like a leaf,

and our iniquities take us away like the wind.

7 And there is no one who calls on your name,

who pulls himself up to keep hold of you,

for you have hidden your face from us,

and melted us into the hand of our iniquity.

- 8 Yet now Yahweh, you *are* our father; we *are* the clay and you *are* our potter, and we all *are* the work of your hand.
- 9 You must not be exceedingly angry, Yahweh, and you must not remember iniquity forever!

Look! Behold, now! We all are your people!

- 10 Your holy cities have become a wilderness;
 - Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.
- Our holy and beautiful temple, where our ancestors praised you has been burned *by* fire, and all our precious objects have become ruins.
- 12 Will you control yourself because of these, Yahweh?

Will you be silent?

And will you oppress us exceedingly?

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—God's Answer to Isaiah's Prayer (c. 689 BC)

Isaiah 65-66

God Has Been Patient With a Sinful People

65:1 "I let myself be sought by those who did not ask;

I let myself be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, 'Here I am; here I am!' to a nation that did not call on my name;

- 2 I spread out my hands all day to a stubborn people, [Rom 10:20–21]
 - those who walk after their thoughts in the way that is not good,
- 3 the people who provoke me to anger continually to my face,
 - slaughtering for sacrifices in the garden, $% \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) =0$
 - and making smoke offerings on bricks,
- 4 who sit in graves
 - and spend the night in secret places,
 - who eat the flesh of swine
 - with a fragment of impurity in their vessels,
- 5 who say, "Keep to yourself!
 - You must not come near me, for I am too holy for you!"
 - These are a smoke in my nostrils,
 - a fire burning all day.
- 6 Look! It is written before me: I will not be silent, but I will repay;
 - and I will repay in the fold of their garment
- your iniquities and the iniquities of your ancestors together, says Yahweh,
 - because they made smoke offerings on the mountains
 - and they taunted me on the hills,
 - I will measure their punishment from the beginning into the fold of their garment."

God Will Not Destroy Everyone

8 Thus says Yahweh: "Just as the new wine is found in the cluster, and they say 'You must not destroy it, for *there is* a blessing in it,' so I will do for the sake of my servants by not destroying everyone.

- 9 And I will bring descendant s out from Jacob,
 - and a people from Judah to take possession of my mountain,
 - and my chosen ones shall inherit it,
 - and my servants shall settle there.
- 10 And Sharon shall become a pasture for flocks,
 - and the valley of Achor a resting place for herds
 - for my people who have sought me.
- 11 But you who forsake Yahweh,
 - forgetting my holy mountain,
 - who set a table for Fortune,
 - and who pour out a jug of mixed wine for Destiny,

and I will remit you to the sword,
and all of you shall bow down to the slaughter,
because I called, but you did not answer;
I spoke, but you did not listen,
but you did the evil in my eyes,
and you chose that in which I do not delight."

13 Therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh:

"Look! My servants shall eat but you, you shall be hungry. Look! My servants shall drink but you, you shall be thirsty. Look! My servants shall rejoice but you, you shall be ashamed.

- 14 Look! My servants shall shout for joy, but you, you shall cry out for pain and howl for sadness.
- And you shall leave your name to my chosen ones as a curse, and the Lord Yahweh will kill you, and he will give his servants another name.
- Whoever blesses himself in the land shall bless himself by the God of trustworthiness, and the one who swears an oath in the land shall swear by the God of trustworthiness, because the former troubles are forgotten, and they are hidden from my eyes.

The Millennium and the Eternal State

- For look! I *am* about to create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered, and they shall not come to mind. [cf. 2 Pet 3:13; Rev 21:1–4]
- But rejoice and shout in exultation forever and ever *over* what I *am* about to create! For look! I *am* about to create Jerusalem *as a source of* rejoicing, and her people *as a source of* joy.
- 19 And I will shout in exultation over Jerusalem, and I will rejoice over my people, and *the* sound of weeping shall no longer be heard in it, or *the* sound of a cry for help.
- There will no longer be a nursing infant who lives only a few days, or an old man who does not fill his days, for the boy will die a hundred years old, and the one who fails to reach a hundred years will be considered accursed.
- And they shall build houses and inhabit *them*, and they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
- They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat.

 For the days of my people *shall be* like the days of *a* tree, and my chosen ones shall enjoy the work of their hands.
- 23 They shall not labor for nothing, and they shall not give birth to horror, for they shall be offspring blessed by Yahweh, and their descendants with them.
- And this will happen: before they call, I myself will answer; while still they are speaking, I myself will hear.
- 25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed like one, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall do no evil, and they shall not destroy on all my holy mountain," says Yahweh.

God Honors the Humble and Strikes Down the Wicked

66:1 Thus says Yahweh:

"Heaven is my throne, and the earth is the footstool for my feet.

Where is this house that you would build for me?

And where *is* this resting place for me?

And my hand has made all these *things*, and all these came to be,"

declares Yahweh, [Acts 7:48-50] "but I look to this one:

to *the* humble and *the* contrite of spirit and *the one* frightened at my word.

- The one who slaughters *a* bull strikes a man; the one who slaughters *a* lamb for sacrifice breaks the neck *of* a dog. The one who offers an offering, *the* blood of swine; the one who offers frankincense blesses an idol. Indeed, they themselves have chosen their ways, and their soul delights in their abhorrence.
- Indeed, I myself I will choose their ill treatment, and I will bring them objects of their dread, because I called, and no one answered; I spoke and they did not listen, but they did the evil in my eyes, and they chose that in which I do not delight."

5 Hear the word of Yahweh, you who are frightened at his word:

Your brothers who hate you, who exclude you for my name's sake have said, "Let Yahweh be honored so that we may see your joy!" But they themselves shall be ashamed.

Zion's Future Children and Joy

7

A voice, an uproar from the city!
 A voice from the temple!
 The voice of Yahweh paying back his enemies!

Before she was in labor she gave birth;

- before labor pains came to her, she gave birth to a son.
 Who has heard *anything* like this?
 - Who has seen *anything* like these *things*? Can a land be born in one day?

Or can a nation be born in a moment?

Yet when she was in labor, Zion indeed gave birth to her children.

- 9 Shall I myself I break open and not deliver?" says Yahweh, "or I who delivers lock up *the womb*?" says your God.
- 10 "Rejoice with Jerusalem and shout in exultation with her, all those who love her! Rejoice with her *in* joy, all those who mourn over her,
- so that you may suck and be satisfied from her consoling breast, so that you may drink deeply and refresh yourselves from her heavy breast."

12 For thus says Yahweh:

"Look! I am about to spread prosperity out to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream, and you shall suck and be carried on the hip; and you shall you shall be played with on the knees.

As a man whose mother comforts him, so I myself will comfort you, and you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

And you shall see and your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like the grass, and the hand of Yahweh shall make itself known to his servants, and he shall curse his enemies.

God Will Judge the Wicked and Preserve the Righteous

15 For look! Yahweh will come in fire, and his chariots like the storm wind, to give back his anger in wrath, and his rebuke in flames of fire.

16 For Yahweh enters into judgment *on* all flesh with fire and his sword, and those slain by Yahweh shall be many.

17 Those who sanctify themselves and those who cleanse themselves to go into the gardens after *the* one in the middle, eating the flesh of swine and detestable things and rodents together

shall come to an end!" declares Yahweh.

- "And I—their works and thoughts!—am about to come to gather all nations and tongues, and they shall come and see my glory.
- And I will set a sign among them, and I will send survivors from them to the nations: Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw *the* bow; Tubal and Javan, the faraway coastlands that have not heard *of* my fame, and have not seen my glory.

And they shall declare my glory among the nations,

20 and bring all your countrymen from all the nations *as* an offering to Yahweh on horses and chariots and in litters and on mules and camels, to my holy mountain, Jerusalem," says Yahweh, "just as the sons of Israel bring *an* offering in a clean vessel *to* the house of Yahweh.

- 21 And indeed, I will take some of them as priests and the Levites," says Yahweh.
- 22 "For just as the new heavens and earth that I am about to make shall stand before me," declares Yahweh, "so shall your descendants and your name stand.
- 23 And this shall happen: From new moon to new moon and from Sabbath to Sabbath all flesh shall come to bow in worship before me," says Yahweh.
- 24 "And they shall go out and look at the corpses of the people who have rebelled against me,

for their worm shall not die, and their fire shall not be quenched, and they shall be an abhorrence to all flesh." [Mark 9:47–48]

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