

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

VII. Isaiah’s *Discourse* on the **Servant of God**, the **Messiah** (49:1-57:21)

- A. The *Calling* of God’s **Servant** (49:1-12)
- B. The *Consolation* of **Zion** (49:13-26)
- C. The *Conditioning* of God’s **Servant** (50:1-11)
- D. The *Comforting* of the **Righteous Remnant** (51:1-52:12)
- E. The *Chastening* of God’s **Servant** (52:13-53:12)
- F. The *Confirming* of God’s **Future Promises** to **Israel** (54:1-17)
- G. The *Call* for a **Repentant People** (55:1-13)
- H. The *Conferring* of **Blessings** upon the **Righteous Gentiles** (56:1-8)

I. The *Corrupt Condition* of **Israel** (56:9-57:21)

- 1. A *Denouncement* of Israel’s **Leaders** (56:9-12)
- 2. A *Deliverance* (by **death**) of the **Righteous** (57:1-2)

¹The **righteous man perishes**, and **no man** takes it to heart;
and **devout men** are *taken away*, while no one **understands**.

For the **righteous man** is *taken away* from evil,
²**He** enters into **peace**; they rest in their **beds**,
each one who **walked** in his **upright way**.

- 3. A *Decrying* of Israel’s **Idolatry** and **Adultery** (57:3-13a)

³“But **come here**, you **sons** of a **sorceress**,
offspring of an **adulterer** and a **prostitute**.”

⁴“Against **whom** do you **jest**?
Against **whom** do you open wide **your mouth**
and stick out **your tongue**?”

Are you not **children** of **rebellion**, **offspring** of **deceit**,
⁵ **who inflame yourselves** among the **oaks**, under every **luxuriant tree**,
who **slaughter** the **children** in the **ravines**,
under the **clefts** of the **crag**s?

⁶“Among the **smooth stones** of the ravine
is **your portion**, they are **your lot**;
even to them you have poured out a **drink offering**,
you have made a **grain offering**.

Shall **I relent** concerning these things?

⁷“Upon a high and lofty **mountain** you have made **your bed**.
You also went **up there** to offer **sacrifice**.

⁸“Behind the **door** and the **doorpost** you have set up **your sign**;
indeed, far **removed from Me**, you have **uncovered yourself**,
and have **gone up** and made your **bed wide**.

And you have made an **agreement** for yourself with **them**,
you have **loved their bed**, you have looked on *their manhood*.

⁹“You have **journeyed to the king** with **oil** and increased your **perfumes**;
you have sent **your envoys** a great distance
and made *them* go down to **Sheol**.

¹⁰“You were **tired** out by the **length** of your **road**,
yet you did **not** say, ‘It is **hopeless**.’
You found **renewed strength**, therefore you did **not faint**.

¹¹“Of **whom** were **you worried** and **fearful** when **you lied**,
and **did not remember Me** nor give *Me* a thought?

Was I not **silent** even for a **long time** so you do **not fear Me**?

¹²“**I will** declare **your righteousness** and **your deeds**,
but they will **not profit you**.

¹³“When you cry out, let your collection of *idols* deliver you.
But **the wind** will **carry** all of them **up**,
and a breath will take *them away*.

4. A **Declaration** of **Future Hope** (57:13b-19)

But **he** who takes **refuge in Me** will **inherit** the land
and will **possess My holy mountain**.”

¹⁴And it will be said, “**build up, build up, prepare the way**,
remove every obstacle out of the **way** of **My people**.”

¹⁵For thus says the **high and exalted One**
Who lives forever, whose name is **Holy**,

“**I dwell** on a **high and holy place**,
and *also* with the **contrite** and **lowly of spirit** in order to **revive**

the **spirit** of the **lowly** and to **revive** the **heart** of the **contrite**.

¹⁶ “For I will **not contend forever**, nor will I always **be angry**;
for the **spirit** would **grow faint** before **Me**,
and the **breath of those whom I have made**.

¹⁷ “Because of the **iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry** and **struck him**;
I hid My face and was **angry**,
and he went on **turning away**, in the way of **his heart**.

¹⁸ “**I have seen his ways**, but **I will heal him**;
I will lead him and **restore comfort to him** and to **his mourners**,

¹⁹ Creating the **praise** of the **lips**.

Peace, peace to him who is **far** and to him who is **near**,”
says **the LORD**, “and **I will heal him**.”

5. A **Distressing Future** for the **Wicked** (57:20-21)

²⁰ But the **wicked** are like the **tossing sea**, for it **cannot be quiet**,
and its **waters** toss up **refuse** and **mud**.

²¹ “There is **no peace**,” says **my God**, “for the **wicked**.”

Chapter Summary

Key Observations

A. The **Devastating** results of **spiritually blind** and **immoral Leadership** (56:9-12)

B. The **Deliverance** (at times by **death**) of the **Righteous** (57:1-2)

¹The **righteous man perishes**...and **devout men** are **taken away**,...
For the **righteous man** is **taken away** from **evil**,
He enters into **peace**;..(57:1-2b)

C. The **Decadence** of **Israel** (fully) **Described** (57:3-13a)

→ “**sons of a sorceress**” (57:3a)

→ “**offspring**” of those committing **spiritual adultery** and **prostitution** (57:3b)

→ making **mockery** of the **righteous** (57:4a)

→ “**children of rebellion**,” (57:4b)

→ “**offspring**” of those who followed after **lies** (57:4c)

→ **committing orgies**, as they practice **idolatrous “tree worship”** (57:5a)

→ **committing child sacrifice** (57:5b)

→ making **drink** and **grain offerings** to “**stones**” of the **ravine** (57:6)

- committing spiritual *adultery* and *idolatry* with various **gods** of the **heathen nations** (57:7-9)
- sending **gifts** and seeking **alliances** with an *idolatrous heathen king* (57:9)
- **maintaining strength** for the practice of *idolatry*, having completely *forgotten their God* – the **true God of Israel** (57:10-11)
- **having trusted** in useless *idols* that **vanish** with the **wind** (57:12-13a)

D. The *Divine Inheritance* of the **Righteous** (57:13b-14)

E. The *Dwelling Place* of **God** (57:15)

F. The *Desire of God* to **Restore** and **Heal Israel** (57:16-19)

G. The *Destiny* of the **Wicked** (57:20-21)

Closing Commentary The *Dwelling Place* of God

“I **dwell** on a high and holy place,
and also with the **contrite** and **lowly** of **spirit** in order to **revive**
the **spirit** of the **lowly** and to **revive** the **heart** of the **contrite**..(57:15)”

The **LORD** is **near** to the *brokenhearted*
and **saves** those who are **crushed in spirit**. (Psalm 34:8)

For though the **LORD** is **exalted**, yet **He regards the lowly**,
but the *haughty* **He knows** from *afar*. (Psalm 138:6)

Thus says the **LORD**,
“**Heaven** is **My throne** and the **earth** is **My footstool**.
Where then is a **house** you could build for **Me**?
And **where** is a **place** that I may rest?”

“For **My hand made** all these things,
Thus all these things came **into being**,” declares the **LORD**.
“But to **this one I will look**, to him who is **humble** and **contrite of spirit**,
and who **trembles** at **My word**. (Isaiah 66:1-2)

“**Blessed** are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the **kingdom of heaven**. (Matthew 5:3)

You **younger men**, likewise, be subject to *your elders*;
and all of you, **clothe** yourselves with **humility** toward **one another**,
for **GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD**, BUT **GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE**. (1 Peter 5:5)

When **he (King Manasseh)** was in *distress*, he **entreated** the **LORD his God**
and **humbled himself greatly** before the **God of his fathers**.

When **he prayed** to **Him (God)**, **He** was **moved** by **his entreaty**
and **heard his supplication**,
and brought him again to **Jerusalem** to his **kingdom**.
Then **Manasseh** knew that **the LORD was God**. (II Chron. 33:12-13)