

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

IX. Isaiah’s *Disclosure* of Conditions and Events Preceding the Kingdom (60:1-66:1-24)

- A. The *Dawning* of Israel’s Future Glory (60:1-22)
- B. The *Description* of Messiah’s Ministry of Restoration (61:1-11)
- C. The *Depiction* of a Jerusalem Restored to Glory (62:1-12)
- D. The *Day* of God’s Vengeance (63:1-6)
- E. The *Declaration* of a Repentant Israel (63:7-64:12)
- F. The *Demise* of Ungodly Israel (65:1-16)
- G. The *Design* of Israel’s Future Kingdom (65:17-25)

H. The *Definitive* Events preceding Israel’s Future Kingdom (66:1-24)

- a. A *Rebuke* of Israel’s Religious Hypocrisy (66:1-4)

66 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?

²“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*.

³“*But* he who **kills an ox** is *like* one who **slays a man**;
He who **sacrifices a lamb** is *like* the one who **breaks a dog’s neck**;

He who offers a **grain offering** is *like* one who offers **swine’s blood**;
He who **burns incense** is *like* the one who **blesses an idol**.

As they have **chosen their own ways**,
and their **soul delights** in their abominations,

⁴ So I will choose their *punishments* and will bring on them what *they dread*.

Because I called, but no one answered; I spoke, but they did not listen.

And they did evil in My sight and *chose* that in which I did not delight.”

b. A Recompense Determined (66:5-6)

⁵ Hear the word of the LORD, you who tremble at His word:

“Your *brothers* who hate you, who *exclude you* for My name’s sake,
Have said, ‘Let the LORD be glorified, that we may see your joy.’
But they will be put to shame.

⁶ “A voice of *uproar* from the city, a voice from the *temple*,
the voice of *the LORD* who is rendering recompense to His enemies.

c. A Remarkable Rebirth of Israel Declared (66:7-9)

⁷ “*Before* she travailed, she brought forth;
before her pain came, she gave birth to a boy.

⁸ “Who has *heard* such a thing? Who has *seen* such things?
Can a land be born in *one day*?

Can a nation be *brought forth* all *at once*?
As soon as Zion travailed, she also *brought forth* her sons.

⁹ “Shall I bring to the point of birth and *not give delivery*?” says the LORD.
“Or shall I who gives *delivery shut the womb*?” says your God.

d. A Revitalized Jerusalem Described (66:10-14)

¹⁰ “Be *joyful* with Jerusalem and *rejoice* for her, all you who *love her*;
be *exceedingly glad* with her, all you who *mourn* over her,

¹¹ That you may *nurse* and be *satisfied* with her comforting *breasts*,
that you may *suck* and be *delighted* with her *bountiful bosom*.”

¹² For thus says the LORD, “Behold, I extend peace to her like a river,
and the *glory* of the *nations* like an *overflowing stream*; and you
will be *nursed*, you will be *carried* on the *hip* and *fondled* on the *knees*.

¹³ “As one whom his mother *comforts*, so I will comfort you;
and you will be *comforted* in Jerusalem.”

¹⁴ Then you will *see this*, and your *heart* will be *glad*,
and your *bones* will flourish like the *new grass*;

and the **hand** of the LORD will be made **known** to His servants,
but He will be **indignant** toward His enemies.

e. A **Retribution** by **Fire** Pronounced (66:15-17)

¹⁵ For behold, the LORD will **come in fire** and His chariots like the **whirlwind**,
to render His anger with fury, and His rebuke with flames of **fire**.

¹⁶ For the LORD will execute **judgment by fire**
and by His sword on all flesh,
and those slain by the LORD will be **many**.

¹⁷ “Those who **sanctify** and **purify** themselves to go to the gardens,
following **one** in the center,
who eat swine’s flesh, **detestable things** and mice,
will come to an **end altogether**,” declares the LORD.

f. A **Revival** among the **Nations** (66:18-19)

¹⁸ “For I know their **works** and their **thoughts**; the time
is coming to **gather all nations** and tongues.
And they shall **come** and see My glory.

¹⁹ I will set a **sign** among them and will send **survivors** from them
to the **nations**: Tarshish, Put, Lud, Meshech, Tubal
and Javan to the distant coastlands that have
neither heard My fame nor **seen My glory**.
And they will **declare My glory** among the nations.

g. A **Regathering** of the “Diaspora” to Jerusalem (66:20-21)

²⁰ Then they shall **bring** all your **brethren** from all the **nations**
as a **grain offering** to the LORD, on horses, in chariots, in litters,
on mules and on camels, to My holy mountain **Jerusalem**,” says the LORD,

“just as the **sons of Israel** bring their **grain offering**
in a **clean vessel** to the **house** of the LORD.

²¹ I will also take some of them for **priests** and for **Levites**,” says the LORD.

h. A **Recognition** of the **Glory** and **Power** of God (66:22-24)

²² “For just as the **new heavens** and the **new earth**
which I make will **endure** before Me,” declares the LORD,
“so your **offspring** and your **name** will **endure**.

²³ “And it shall be from **new moon** to **new moon**
and from **sabbath** to **sabbath**,
all mankind will come to **bow down** before Me,” says the LORD.

²⁴ “Then they will go forth and look on the **corpses** of the **men** who have **transgressed** against Me.

For their **worm** will **not die** and their **fire** will **not be quenched**; and they will be an **abhorrence** to **all mankind**.”

Extended Study Question

Tonight we read this **amazing text**:

“**Who** has **heard** such a **thing**? **Who** has **seen** such **things**?
Can a **land** be **born** in **one day**?

Can a **nation** be **brought forth** all **at once**?
As soon as **Zion** **travailed**, she also **brought forth** her **sons**. (66:8)

What nation does this refer to, and **when** does this happen?

Two main interpretations:

- 1) It refers to **Israel’s “rebirth”** as a **nation** in **1948** (quote)
- 2) It refers to **Israel’s redemption** and “rebirth” at the **2nd coming of Messiah**:

And in **that day** I will set about to **destroy** all the **nations** that come **against Jerusalem**.

“I will **pour out** on the **house of David** and on the **inhabitants of Jerusalem**, the **Spirit of grace** and of **supplication**,

so that they will **look on Me** whom they have **pierced**;
and they will **mourn** for **Him**, as one **mourns** for an **only son**,
and they will **weep bitterly** over **Him** like the **bitter weeping** over a **firstborn**.

In **that day** there will be **great mourning** in **Jerusalem**,..

“In **that day** a **fountain** will be opened for the **house of David** and for the **inhabitants of Jerusalem**, for **sin** and for **impurity**...”
(Zechariah 12:9-11, 13:1)

and so **all Israel** will be **saved**; just as it is **written**,

“THE **DELIVERER** WILL COME FROM **ZION**,
HE WILL **REMOVE UNGODLINESS** FROM **JACOB**.”

“THIS IS **MY COVENANT** WITH THEM,
WHEN I **TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS**.” (Romans 11:26-27)

Closing Comments

