



The Prophets & Kings

From Rehoboam
To Zedekiah

Book 1

A
Daily Devotional
Study Guide

Week 39

“Jesus As Our Light”

Study: Isaiah 60:11-22

Reading: John 8:12-21, Revelation 21:22-27

Memory: Romans 8:20

Have you ever been working on a project when it started to get dark but you kept on working because you wanted to finish? I have many times and many of those times I went back out in the morning to look at that project and realized I should have stopped a little sooner than I did. Though I thought I was doing it right and doing a good job, the sunlight of the day many times revealed something different.

Today we are going to see that there will be a time where it will never get dark. The sun and the moon will be gone, but darkness will not prevail because Jesus will be our light.

What Does the Bible Say?

The walls of Jerusalem were knocked down by foreign nation, but in a twist of events, the walls of Jerusalem will be build back up by foreigners. The leader of these foreign nations will become servants to Israel. The point being made is that God is going to have mercy on His people and completely flip their fortunes around. There will be no reason to shut their gates because there will be no enemies left on earth to be afraid of. People from all around will continually be bringing them wealth and treasure. It is unclear if this is a more figurative or literal illustration. Probably a mixture of both. In those days, when a kingdom was in power, the nations they conquered would be continually bringing gifts to the leader of the nation to keep that lead nation from destroying them. Most likely, there will not be foreign nations in the millennial kingdom but this is a picture of the great honor that Israel will have from all those who are part of the kingdom (vs 11-12).

All of the great building material known to man will be used to build a beautiful city and temple. It will be a glorious place, unlike any temple or city that has ever existed. Jerusalem would no longer be a despised city, but would be the highest city in the world. People from the nations who once afflicted it would now come to the city and worship there. This is because the Messiah will be in the city ruling and reigning over the

world (vs 13-14).

After the destruction by the Babylonians, no one would have any interest in visiting Jerusalem because it was a pile of ruins. This was going to change and in the kingdom everyone will want to go up to Jerusalem to see the city and the Great King. All the riches of the world will flow into the city and no one will be poor. There will be no expense spared and it will be an amazing place. There will be no reason to skimp on building material but will only be the best. Not only will it be physically beautiful, but it will be a place that people will want to live because it will be full of peace and righteousness. There will be no violence or destruction. The city will be filled with continual joy and praise unlike anyone on the earth has ever experienced (vs 15-18).

One of the great changes in the millennial kingdom will be how the sun and the moon work. They will no longer be needed because God will be the everlasting light. The emphasis is that there will be no more darkness. In this land of light, righteousness will prevail. God will be glorified in a great way and there will be great jubilation throughout the land. No one will be greater than the other and all inhabitants of the kingdom will have the same standing before God (vs 19-22).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Again today we are reminded of the greatness we have waiting for us in the future. I Thessalonians 3:13 says that Jesus will return “with His saints.” This gives us the idea that all who have believed since the beginning of time will be part of the millennial kingdom. There are many different views of eschatology, the study of end times, that have many variations. Many good arguments for certain teachings and against certain teachings exist. Yet, when you step back and look at the overall pictures the point that is made over and over again that it will be amazing.

Though people have argued about the specifics for centuries and will continue to debate the topic until it happens, it does not change the fact that your eternal existence will be far greater than you could ever imagine. Passages like these can also bring hope in times of sadness and great despair as we realize how temporal this life is compared to eternity.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for giving you hope for the future.*
- * *Praise God because He is the Light of the world.*

Who will help build the walls of Jerusalem (vs 10)?

Why would this be such a change?

How was God’s mercy on display (vs 10)?

What will not be shut (vs 11)? Why is this significant?

What will happen to the wealth of the world (vs 11)?

What will happen to those who reject God (vs 12)?

What does verse 13 indicate about the magnificence of Jerusalem and Israel?

How will things be different in the future (vs 14)?

How was Jerusalem viewed after its destruction (vs 15)?

What do you think verse 16 means?

What do the materials listed in verse 17 indicate?

What will the Israelites overseas (vs 17)?

How was this so opposite of what they were about to experience?

What would not exist in the land anymore (vs 18)?

What do the names of the walls and gates mean (vs 18)?

What will no longer exist (vs 19)? Why not?

What will be ended (vs 20)?

How will the people live (vs 21)?

What will happen to the weak and lowly (v 22)?

“The Year of the Lord”

Study: Isaiah 61:1-11

Reading: Luke 4:16-30

Memory: Romans 8:20

What Does the Bible Say?

Isaiah is filled with many predictions about the Messiah and one of the most clear is found here in chapter 61. The Spirit of God would be upon the anointed one sent from God. The term “Messiah” and “Christ” are a reference to the anointed one. The Messiah would bring wonderful news to those who were poor, all men are spiritually poor, and would heal those who had broken hearts. Those who were captive, would find liberty in Him. Those who were bound in the chains of darkness and depravity would be set free from their prison. Though these verses do picture a physical restoration that one day Jesus will bring, they also picture a spiritual restoration that Jesus can bring to the lives of those who follow Him (vs 1).

The Messiah would also proclaim that time that God was sending His favor down to the people to deliver them. Vengeance would also come from the Messiah to enact judgement on all those who rejected Him. The end result would be great comfort to the people of God and condemnation for those who chose not to follow God (vs 2).

It is interesting to note that Jesus quoted this exact portion of Scripture when He was asked to read from the scrolls in the synagogue in Nazareth (Luke 4:18-19). He stopped in the middle of verse two after it described how the Messiah would claim “the year of the Lord’s favor.” He then declared “Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke 4:21) This declaration bothered many and after a little more conversation with Jesus they sought to kill Him.

Though many Jews would experience difficult times, the Messiah would replace their mourning with beauty. Instead of pouring ashes on their head (a symbol of mourning) He would adorn their heads with a crown of beauty (most likely this pictured a flowered arrangement). Instead of a tired spirit, he would be given praise. They would be exalted like mighty oak trees because of the suffering they endured for their God (vs 3).

The cities of Israel that lay in ruins would be built up again and the devastation that had occurred for many generations will be wiped away. Foreigners will be their servants, rather than the Israelites having to serve those from other nations. They would become like priests to God as people from other nations would give them things to offer sacrifices to God. Instead of living in shame and poverty, they would live in wealth and experience blessings. The result will be everlasting joy. As we have seen before in Isaiah, some of these things may not be literal, but figurative. It basically pictures how everything will be much different than the current state of servitude that many Jews found themselves in (vs 4-7).

God reminded His people that He was just. He would reward those who followed Him and bring judgement on those who chose to reject Him. Perhaps they would not see the rewards, but their rewards would be passed down to their offspring. In the end, the Jews will see God for who He is and those who choose to follow Him will greatly rejoice in Him. He will bring salvation to the people and cover their sins with a robe of righteousness. They will be restored from a place of poverty to a place of prominence. Just as good fertile ground brings forth new sprouts, so the Lord will cause righteousness and praise to come out of the spiritual dust of this world (vs 8-11).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Comfort and hope are two constant themes mentioned in Isaiah and throughout all Scripture. These two concepts are so important because they are something that every human needs. When you find people who live with hope and have comfort in something that is greater than this life, you will find people who live a vibrant life that is full of joy and peace. These do not come from the world that is decaying. Sure, there will be times of sadness for all people and times of rejoicing for all people, but the continual state of comfort and hope is something that is promised to those who choose to follow God. This does not mean that everything will go well for you in this life. Many times, the promised hope would not be realized for generations. At the same time, this doesn’t mean you will live in constant misery because God will give you the strength, mercy and power to make it through each day. Simply put, the more that you choose to follow God, the better your life will be. When you choose to find your hope in Him, the things of this world will not shake you or throw you off the path you are on.

What was going to be on the Messiah (vs 1)?

Why was this important?

What would the Messiah bring to the poor (vs 1)?

What does the end of verse 1 picture about the Messiah?

What was He going to proclaim (vs 2)?

Why do you think Jesus quoted this in Luke 4?

What would the Messiah bring to those who mourn (vs 2)?

What do you think this means?

What was the Messiah going to give them (vs 3)? Why?

What would those who follow Him be called (vs 3)?

What does the end of verse 3 reveal about God's great desire?

What was going to take place for Israel (vs 4)?

Who will be the servants (vs 5)?

What will Israel be called (vs 6)?

What will replace their shame (vs 7)?

What does God love (vs 8)? What does this mean?

What was God going to do for their children (vs 9)? How could this be a source of comfort?

What is God going to do for His people (vs 10)?

What did God compare His spiritual work to (vs 11)?

“Rejuvenated”

Study: Isaiah 62:1-12

Reading: Revelation 2:12-17

Memory: Romans 8:20

I grew up about 30 minutes north of Detroit. During the time I lived in the region, there was very little desire for people to travel to the city because it had been in decline for many years already. Occasionally, when we go back to visit my mom we will go to downtown Detroit and I am quite surprised at the rejuvenation that is taking place. Areas that were once full of abandoned homes have been torn down, and nice, new buildings stand in their place. It also helps that in the last few years some of the major sports teams have returned from the suburbs to downtown bringing a great deal of financial support with them.

Today, we are going to see that great rejuvenation will one day take place in the nation of Israel. It will no longer be looked down on or be a place where people would not want to live, but instead will be full of prime real estate.

What Does the Bible Say?

The affection that God had towards Jerusalem would not allow Him to keep quiet. He wanted His city and the people He loved to shine once again and be the light of the world. All the nations around them will see God's righteous acts and will see the glory that will encircle Jerusalem. The city will have a new name that will be given to them from the Lord. This is an interesting word picture and a similar promise in the New Testament (Rev 2:17). Names were vitally important in those days and a new name pictured a new beginning or a fresh start. Jerusalem will be the highest city, above all other cities, because God Himself will dwell there and reign from there (vs 1-3).

After the destruction of Jerusalem, the city would be looked at with disdain, but one day everyone will view the city in a completely different light. Jerusalem will also be given the name “Hephzibah” (delight) and “Beulah” (married) These were both names which gave the picture of the way a husband views his beautiful bride who he was about to wed. God would treat Jerusalem like a young bride and would constantly rejoice in

the fact that she was His (vs 4-5).

Verses 6-7 picture the practice of putting watchman on the city walls who continually looked out for enemy attacks, but these watchman would be continually praying to God. They would not stop until Jerusalem was fully established and it becomes the praise of all men. Once established, Jerusalem would not be overtaken ever again. Though they would be a source of wealth for the Babylonians, this would not happen again once the Messiah establishes His kingdom. They would not grow food for other nations as they were forced to do when conquered, but they would eat the fruit of their own labor (vs 6-9).

A call went out to smooth out the roads and widen the gates. They were to build up the highway to keep them from becoming muddy. The salvation of God was coming and the roads needed to be ready to handle all those who would return back to Jerusalem. They would be called “Holy People” and the “Redeemed of the Lord.” The nation of Israel, and specifically Jerusalem, would be a place where people would desire to live (vs 10-12).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you see how God views his children? Many people get the idea that God is some angry God who wants to “get you” when you make a mistake, but the picture that Scripture gives us is one of a much different God. Yes, He does punish sin, but He also has a very special place in His heart for His people. So much so that He describes them with great affection. Even when you go through punishment or difficult times remember that God loves you more than you could ever realize.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for choosing to redeem you.*
- * *Ask God to help you understand how much He loves you.*
- * *Praise God because He is always working things out for your good.*

Thought for the day

Why was God not going to keep quiet (vs 1)?

What was God’s desire for Jerusalem (vs 1)?

What would all the nations see (vs 2)?

What do you think it means that they will have a new name (vs 2)?

What will God make them (vs 3)?

What would they no longer be called (vs 4)?

What would they be called (vs 4)?

How does this reveal how special God’s children are to Him?

What did God compare His view of Israel to (vs 5)?

Who were on the walls of Jerusalem (vs 6)? What were they doing?

Why would they not rest (vs 7)?

What did God swear by (vs 8)? What does that mean?

What would God not do again (vs 8)?

Why was it significant that they would eat the fruit that they grew (vs 9)?

What were they commanded to do to the roads (vs 10)? Why?

What was to be declared (vs 11)?

What was God going to have with Him (vs 11)?

What will the people be called (vs 12)? Why?

What will they not be called (vs 12)?

What does this reveal about God?

“Stained Garments”

Study: Isaiah 63:1-10

Reading: Revelations 14:9-20, Joel 3:1-21

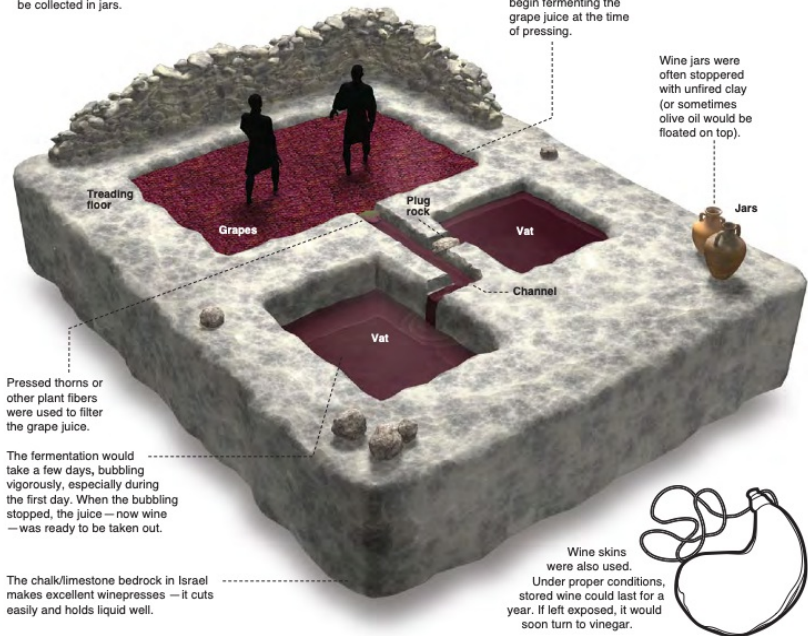
Memory: Romans 8:20

A Winepress in Ancient Israel

An ancient winepress was a rock-hewn open-air system. Grapes were pressed by being trodden underfoot in a treading floor. The juice would pour through a channel into a vat, where it would ferment. It would then be collected in jars.

The yeast from the skin of the grapes would begin fermenting the grape juice at the time of pressing.

Wine jars were often stoppered with unfired clay (or sometimes olive oil would be floated on top).



Pressed thorns or other plant fibers were used to filter the grape juice.

The fermentation would take a few days, bubbling vigorously, especially during the first day. When the bubbling stopped, the juice — now wine — was ready to be taken out.

The chalk/limestone bedrock in Israel makes excellent winepresses — it cuts easily and holds liquid well.

Wine skins were also used. Under proper conditions, stored wine could last for a year. If left exposed, it would soon turn to vinegar.

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doing all the work. In those days, the treading of wine was often done in large groups in which they would make a party or event out of it where they would dance on the grapes and make their work more fun and much easier since they were working together. Here is a picture of Jesus and His great power doing all the work by Himself. He was pouring out the wrath of God on the people, crushing them like grapes with their blood spattering all over His clothing. This was because the day of vengeance had come and it was time for God to redeem His people. The Messiah would need no one else to assist Him in this process, because no one else had the power to do so. He alone would take action and cause great destruction to those who had fought against Him (vs 3-6).

This picture of great destruction towards the enemies of God, was countered with a picture of the great love and mercy of God towards His children. Verse 7 flowed with great praise for the deep love of God and expressed amazement at His goodness and mercy. He chose to be their Savior and chose to call them out of the darkness of this world. He felt their pain and their suffering. Even though they fell short at times, He showed pity on them redeeming them from their bondage. His care for His children was not a short term relationship, but continued to love and help His children throughout the years (vs 7-9).

Throughout the history of Israel, the love of God was marvelously displayed, but sadly, so was the sinfulness of man. They rebelled against God and though He loved them, He had to act as their enemy and fight against them in order to preserve His Holy name (vs 10).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you realize that God is both a God of vengeance and a God of love? Many people tend to focus on one or the other and don't maintain the proper balance. For instance, when there is too strong of a focus on the love of God, it often opens the door for more sin to take place because people don't have a fear of the discipline and correction of God. On the other hand, when people only focus on the judgement of God, they often miss out on the great love that He has to offer. He loves His children deeply, but that love also causes Him to enact discipline and punishment. The challenge for you is to first develop a proper view of God and then to choose to follow Him out of a heart of love. Learn from the Israelites who took His love for granted and rejected Him and forced Him to fight against them. You want God on your side and you don't want the God described in verses 1-6 to be against you.

What Does the Bible Say?

This chapter begins with a question being asked about who the person is who is headed from Edom and its capital city of Bozrah to Jerusalem. The clothing that this person is wearing was royal clothing and was marching to with great power and strength, declaring that He was “mighty to save.” Though His royal robes were majestic, they were also covered in blood, much like a person would appear after they had been stomping on grapes in a winepress. This is an obvious picture of the coming of the Messiah (vs 1-2).

The Messiah will declare that He had been in the winepress alone

Where was the Messiah coming from (vs 1)?

What was He dressed in (vs 1)?

What was being announced (vs 1)?

Why is it important to realize that only God has the power to save (vs 1)?

What was the appearance of His royal robes (vs 2)?

What had the Messiah been doing (vs 3)?

Why do you think such a harsh picture is presented here?

Why do you think He declared He did it alone (vs 3)?

What time had come (vs 4)?

Why did God say He was stepping in (vs 5)?

How can you stand up and help the poor and oppressed around you?

What did He do to the nations (vs 6)?

How is the Lord's love described (vs 7)?

What attributes of God are mentioned in verse 7?

What did God do to them (vs 8)?

What did He not want them to do (vs 8)?

Why did God suffer (vs 9)?

Why did God choose to redeem His people (vs 9)?

How did the people respond (vs 10)?

How do you think you can respond this way?

“Feeling Rejected”

Study: Isaiah 63:11-19

Reading: Psalm 74:1-23

Memory: Romans 8:20

Shortly after I first became the lead pastor of a church, one of my elderly church members had some severe health problems and I visited him in the hospital a handful of times while he was on the brink of losing his life. God spared his life and he recovered and he thanked me over and over for visiting Him. He made me feel special and told many others what a great pastor I was, making me feel special. It wasn't but a couple of years later that he became upset with me for a choice that I made for the church. Instead of singing my praises to everyone, he started talking negatively about me to everyone. This was somewhat difficult for me as a young pastor, going from a position of being praised and cared for to one of being rejected and feeling hated.

Today, we are going to see how Israel felt like they had gone from a privileged position as a child of God, to a position of being rejection.

What Does the Bible Say?

It appears that the end of chapter 63 is referring to the thoughts of the Israelites while in the Babylonian captivity. Because of their rebellion and constant disobedience to His commands, He chose to send the Babylonian army to fight against them. After many were killed and the land destroyed, they began to call out to God, wondering why He had abandoned them. They recounted the days where Moses led them out of Egypt through the Red Sea with the presence of God revealed in fire and cloud to lead them. They recalled the great power that was given to Moses as all he had to do was lift up his hand and the water parted, leaving dry ground for them to walk on. This power that God displayed and continued to display throughout their journey to the Promise Land increased the reputation of the children of Israel and also led to great peace. The picture of peace described here was that of livestock traveling down into a green valley where they were content, satisfied and had nothing to worry about. The power that God had displayed in delivering them from Egypt and allowing them to take over the promise land is what

they were longing for again (vs 11-14).

Instead of picturing God as One who was right there with them, the Israelites called out to God and asked Him to look down from heaven and see them. This appears to indicate that they didn't think He was a God who was near as He had declared, but He was a God who seemed like He was barely able to see them. They wanted Him to show compassion on them once again and use His might and zeal to help deliver them from the situation they were in. They no longer wanted to be forgotten. They declared that God was still their Father, even though they were somewhat unrecognizable as His children. They were the children of Abraham and Jacob, though they didn't follow God like their forefathers did. They were longing for the God of their fathers to step in and be their God, their Redeemer (vs 15-16).

Though the Israelites were the ones to stray from God, they felt that God had strayed from them. Because He didn't appear to be acting on their behalf, their hearts were becoming hardened towards Him and many did not think He had the power to save. They wanted to return back to the Land and once again experience the promises of God. Their land was in ruins, their walls were broken down and their temple was destroyed. God's chosen people had become like they were not the people of God anymore. They felt like God had abandoned them and was treating them like all the other nations around them (vs 17-19).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you ever feel like God has rejected or abandoned you? Do you feel like the things that God is allowing into your life is unfair or that God is not treating you like you think He should? When you see this complaint from the Israelites, it is easy to think, "How could they say this?" You have read how Israel is the one who rejected God after He repeatedly warned them. You can see the big picture of things when you read the whole scripture and realize that the plan and purpose of God was so much greater than they ever realized. When you feel like God has forsaken and abandoned you, remember what the Israelites thought and remind yourself that even through their punishment, God was still on their side.

Suggestions for Prayer

* *Ask God to help you continually look to Him and trust Him.*

What did the Israelites start to think about (vs 11)?

When did they think about this (vs 11)?

Why do you think it took great trial and heartache to get their attention?

How can you avoid having to greatly suffer in order for God to get your attention?

What questions were asked in verse 11?

What had God done for Israelites that was still be talked about centuries later (vs 12)?

What had this miracle done for the name of God (vs 12)?

How were they led through the water and the desert (vs 13)?

What was God's leading compared to (vs 14)?

Why do you think the concept of rest was desired and exalted (vs 14)?

Where did they want God to look down from (vs 15)?

What does this seem to indicate about how they felt God was distant from them (vs 15)?

What did they ask God to do in verse 15?

Who did they declare God was (vs 16)?

Why would they say that Abraham would not recognize them (vs 16)?

What did they blame God for (v 17)?

What did they ask God to do (vs 17)?

What state were they currently in (vs 18-19)?

“As Dirty Rags”

Study: Isaiah 64:1-12

Reading: 1 John 1:1-10, Romans 3:9-20

Memory: Romans 8:20

Each year as spring time comes around, I head out to the campground on the backside of our property to start getting it ready for the summer. Over the winter time, branches fall, mice create nests and things get rusty and stiff from not being used. I take time to start opening things back up, cleaning and restoring the campground so it is ready to be used once again in the summer.

Today, we are going to see a plea from the Israelites for God to restore their land. It had sat dormant for a while when they were in captivity in Babylon and they would need God’s help in restoration. One thing that is interesting to note is that this was written 150 years before the restoration would start occurring. It appears that Isaiah is giving them a blueprint for a prayer of confession and repentance before Israel was going to face the punishment.

What Does the Bible Say?

The desire expressed in verse 1 was one calling on God to once again do incredible acts for His people like He did when He was delivering them out of the hands of the Egyptians. Not only did He perform many miracles to get them out of Egypt, but continued to show His presence while they were traveling to the promise land. When God met Moses on Mount Sinai, the great power of God was on display. His power also went with them when conquering their enemies so that all of the foreign nations feared the God of Israel. The works of God and the power that He displayed were far above what anyone on the earth had seen up to that time. By delivering the Israelites and giving them the promise land, the power of God was on full display (vs 1-4).

This God of awesome power was also the same God who brought joy into the lives of those who chose to follow Him. He would individually meet them, caring for each soul. Scripture recounts over and over again the interaction of God in the personal lives of His children. Yet, when they chose to sin and the nation chose to turn from God, He also revealed

His anger by sending judgement upon the sin. Even the things that they did that seemed righteous were like a filthy rag before God. Most of Israel had reached out would reach a point where they would all turn from God, and as a result God was going to whisk them away from the land of Israel like a leaf blowing in the wind. God was going to turn His favor from them and they would be like something that melts causing that item to slip through one’s fingers (vs 5-7).

Though Israel faced a righteous and just punishment for their sin, they were now calling upon God for restoration. They declared that they wanted to be clay in the hands of the potter. They called upon God to remove His anger from them and to forgive their sin. They wanted once again to act like His people and they wanted Him to be their God. They recognized that God had allowed their cities to be destroyed and their temple had been burned and demolished. They were choosing to come back to God and they were asking Him to come back to them and to help them restore their land (vs 8-12).

How Does this Apply to Me?

You will sin. Sadly, this is a fact of life for even the strongest believers. Though you want to follow Christ, you have a sinful nature and will never be perfect in this life. Even the good things that you may try to do can never be fully perfect because you are born with a sinful nature. This may sound like you are doomed, but this is the very reason that God sent Jesus. You can’t be righteous on your own, but if you turn to Christ and trust in the finished work of Jesus, you can find restoration and hope. When you do sin, even as a believer, it is not over for you, just as it wasn’t over for Israel. You may even stray far from God and face great heartache as Israel did, but there is always restoration and hope waiting for you if you choose to turn back to God.

Suggestions for Prayer

* *Thank God for the restoration that He offers to all people.*

Thought for the day

What did the Israelites want to happen again (vs 1)?

What did Israel want to happen to their enemies (vs 2)?

Describe a time in the history of Israel where foreign nations feared the God of Israel?

What did God do for Israel (vs 3)?

Describe an awesome thing that God did for you when you were not looking for it?

Why do you think the mountains shook at the presence of God? What does this reveal about the greatness of God?

What set God apart (vs 4)?

How does God meet those who do what is right (vs 5)?

What does God do when a person continues to sin (vs 5)?

What have all men become like (vs 6)?

What does verse 7 reveal about the condition of all men (vs 7)?

****Though Isaiah was writing mainly about the Israelites, Paul used verses like these to reveal that all men are born sinners, not seeking after God.*

What had their sin caused (vs 7)?

What did verse 8 reveal about their choice to repent?

What did they ask God to do (vs 9-10)?

What had happened to their land (vs 11)?

What did they ask God (vs 12)? Why?

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. 12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, In 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. 18 Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope