

# INITIATION INTO ISAIAH

by

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## CHAPTER SIXTY-SIX

### THEME:

A panorama of prophecy—Thy Kingdom has come.

### REMARKS:

This brings us to the last chapter of Isaiah. One final flash of the coming Kingdom passes before our eyes. There is likewise the flash from judgment fires that are still burning. These but warn us that the kingdom has not yet come, and before that day “**the slain of the Lord shall be many.**”

Isaiah does not conclude like a fairy story “and they lived happily ever after.” There is no saccharine sweetness here. There is the rugged reality of judgment upon sin which must inevitably precede the establishment of the Kingdom. The Kingdom is coming, for this is the persistent purpose of God, and none can deter Him. All of God’s children can “**rejoice with Jerusalem.**” “**The Kingdom is the Lord’s.**”

### OUTLINE:

1. **The LORD, DESIGNATED as Creator, Ruler, Redeemer, Judge, Regenerator, and Rewarder.** Verses 1-13
2. **The LORD DECIDES the Destiny of Both the Saved and the Lost.** Verses 14-24

### COMMENT:

Verse 1—**Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?**

The Kingdom is 1000 years, but it is also eternal. The eternal character of the Kingdom is before us in this final scene. There will be a Millennial temple, but will it be necessary for Eternity? Surely the Church in the New Jerusalem has none.

**To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne, he that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches** (Revelation 3:21-22).

It has never been the conception of God's people that He could dwell in a temple.

**But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee: how much less this house that I have builded (I Kings 8:27).**

Verse 2—**For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.**

God has created this vast universe, and He is above and beyond it, nevertheless, He will dwell with the humble and contrite heart that knows it is poor. What condescension!

Verse 3—**He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificieth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations.**

Apparently, the sacrificial system will be dispensed with after the Millennium. To offer an ox without the spiritual comprehension was the same as murder. Everything in Eternity must point to Christ, or that which was once commanded becomes sin.

Verse 4—**I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.**

For those who refused to answer the call of God, there will be delusion and fear.

Verse 5—**Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.**

God will make the distinction between the true and the false. The Pharisee who was meticulous in his religious practice will be cast out. The Publican who stood afar off and repented will be received.

Verse 6—**A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the Lord that rendereth recompence to his enemies.**

God will finally deal with the enemies of Israel.

Verse 7—**Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.**

Before the Great Tribulation came, Christ was born of this nation.

**Verse 8—Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.**

They will be born a nation in the time of the Great Tribulation.

**Verse 9—Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the Lord: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? saith thy God.**

God will see that all of this is accomplished. The 144,000 who are sealed at the beginning of the Great Tribulation survive intact throughout the entire period of suffering.

**Verse 10—Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:**

**Verse 11—That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.**

Every Christian who has prayed for the peace of Jerusalem will rejoice when the Kingdom is ushered in with Jerusalem as the center.

**Verse 12—For thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.**

Now peace will come to this city, the name of which means peace.

The Gentiles will no longer tread down Jerusalem, but will come to walk in the light of the city.

**Verse 13—As one whom her mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.**

How tender is God toward Jerusalem!

**Verse 14—And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the Lord shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.**

Joy awaits those who enter into God's feelings for this city.

**Verse 15—For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.**

Nevertheless, the Lord is coming in judgment upon His enemies.

**Verse 16—For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the stain of the Lord shall be many.**

The fires of judgment cannot be quenched until they have burned out entirely.

**Verse 17—They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord.**

God will judge the wicked.

**Verse 18—For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.**

All nations must appear before Him.

**When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats (Matthew 25:31-32).**

**Verse 19—And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Put, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.**

Many Gentiles will be saved in the Kingdom.

**Verse 20—And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the Lord out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the Lord, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord.**

The nations will worship in Jerusalem. Zechariah makes this very definite. Just as the Queen of Sheba came in Solomon's day, thus will the kings of the earth come to Jerusalem.

**Verse 21—And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites, saith the Lord.**

Again the prophet states that Israel shall be a nation of priests.

**Verse 22—For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain.**

God's purposes and promises for Israel are as eternal as the new heavens and the new earth.

**Verse 23—And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord.**

The redeemed of all ages will worship God throughout eternity. That is the engaging business of Eternity.

**Verse 24—And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.**

Hell is eternal. The book of Isaiah closes with this thrice repeated warning to the human race.

**“He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.”**

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