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God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Isaiah 12.

(2015)

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

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Isaiah 12.

Topics.

- Israel will say, "God is my song and my salvation; I will not be afraid.
- Great in Zion is the Holy One of Israel let his name be known in all the earth.
- Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
- The glory of the spiritual temple God is building in Christ.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION: Isaiah is the exciting story of the Old Testament and the New Testament compacted into one book. It covers the wonder and splendour of Bible prophecy and echoes of the Lord Jesus Christ resound throughout Isaiah's visions and his messages. It teaches history as it affects God's people and constantly points to a future age when righteousness, justice, joy and peace will be established on earth. Isaiah prophesied about 740–700 B.C. He lived during the decline of Israel in the shadow of the powerful Assyrian Empire. He spoke the word of God to a people who were "deaf and blind" (Isaiah 6:10) who refused to listen to his warnings of looming disaster.

Isaiah warned the people of Judah's that their sin would bring God's judgment (i.e., seventy-years captivity) and declared that God is sovereign and would use Cyrus the Persian to return the people from exile. He spoke also of a servant and man of sorrows who would be wounded for our transgressions faithfully accomplishing God's purposes of salvation (Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12). The final chapters give a beautiful description of a new creation in which Christ will rule as King, judging the wicked and establishing God's Kingdom on earth. Following are four points that will help the reader understand the book of Isaiah as they travel through it: -

1. The history of Israel and Judah. At this time in the story Assyria has taken the ten tribes of Israel in the land of Samaria into captivity and marched up to Jerusalem (the two tribes of Judah) to destroy it, but failed. Later in the story Babylon attacks Jerusalem and conquers the city and takes the people of Judah into captivity. After this victory Babylon conquers Assyria which resulted in Israel and Judah being brought under the submission of Babylonian rule and the tribes being brought together during the seventy year Babylonian captivity.
2. Many of Isaiah's visions are written as though they have already taken place, but a majority of these visions are predicting future events that are about to happen during Isaiah's generation while others will come to pass in a future age. Though these visions are of future events Isaiah speaks them in the present tense, because he spoke them as they came to his mind and as he saw the events unfolding before him. They are often spoken in this manner because of the certainty of it and because God had ordained them and revealed them to his prophets who spoke them to His people so they must come to pass, because God cannot lie.(Titus 1:2).
3. Though Isaiah is primarily speaking to Judah (the two tribes at Jerusalem) much of what he says applies to Israel (the ten tribes in Samaria) because both Judah and Israel are in the same corrupt spiritual condition.
4. All the promises to Israel are now in Christ. God's promises to Israel now include the Jews and the Gentiles. This is because under the New Covenant God is building an entirely new nation made up of Jews and Gentiles of which Christ is the head. In this new nation that God is creating in the Lord Jesus Christ Jews have no advantage over Gentiles since all are one in Christ Jesus.

The apostle Paul wrote: Gentiles were separated from Christ, alienated from the Commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus they have been brought to God by the blood of Christ. Jesus has made Jews and Gentiles both one by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances so that Jesus might create in himself one new man (i.e., one nation) in place of the two (Jews and Gentiles). In Jesus both Jews and Gentiles are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (Eph. 2:1-22). The practical application of what this means, is that all the future and eternal promises God made to Israel through Isaiah also apply to Gentiles who by faith belong to Christ.

Israel will say, "God is my Song and My Salvation; I will Not be Afraid.

Isaiah 12:1-2 ----- ¹You (Israel and Judah) will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. ²"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."

This chapter is a continuation of the previous chapter which spoke of the LORD judging the earth; the earth being full of the knowledge of the LORD; God gathering the remnant of Israel from the four corners of the earth and the coming Messianic age.

God's anger is turned from Israel: (v1) the local fulfillment of these words can apply to the end of Israel's seventy years in captivity to Babylon when God used Cyrus as His anointed shepherd (Isaiah 45:1) (Isaiah 45:2-3) to give written permission to Israel to return to their beloved city Jerusalem. They repossessed their homes, established their farms, rebuilt the city of Jerusalem and the temple of God and a golden age of prosperity and peace followed them for a period of time, but its ultimate fulfillment will be when: -

- The LORD seeks to destroy all nations that come against Jerusalem and pours out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that when they look on him whom they have pierced they will mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. (Zech. 12:7, 9-10).
- Christ comes in the clouds, and every eye sees him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth wail on account of him. (Rev. 1:1-20).

When these events take place and Israel sees that their Messiah and King has rescued them from their surrounding nations not only will they clearly recognize that God's anger has been turned away from them, but will also confess that Jesus is their Messiah and trust in him for their salvation.

Great in Zion is the Holy One of Israel let His Name be known in all the Earth.

Isaiah 12:3-6 ----- ³With joy you (Israel and Judah) will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵"Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

The Scriptures prophetically predict a time will come in the latter days when nations will surround Jerusalem so much so that it will appear that the inhabitants of Jerusalem will be utterly destroyed. This event will bring about the return of Israel's Messiah.

The Lord will return in glory as, King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to destroy the antichrist and his kingdom and establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign. The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first

resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth.

Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish.

The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce (Isaiah 65:17-25). All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God.

The book of Revelation states: -

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

In Revelation chapter five we are told that: -

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

The great prophet Isaiah wrote: -

- They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev. 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory.

For further information see titles: -

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Let this be made known in all the earth: (v5) refers to the triumph of the Messiah's kingdom which as yet is not fully accomplished and to that time that is coming when the scattered Jews will be regathered to God, but not to be returned to their own land, but to be brought again under God's dominion and under the administration of the Messiah. This event will be followed with such a sudden removal of obstructions to the Gospel that it will rapidly spread everywhere among all nations. Some as they look at the present state of the Jews and the unbelieving world may tend to think, "How can the Gospel possibly go out with such swiftness?" But consider the following four points.

1. The Jews have been driven to all parts of the earth, wanderers without a home, scattered amongst all nations (and will continue to be so), yet continuing to live and survive and practice their faith, rites and unique customs despite all the efforts of nations to crush and destroy them.

2. They speak nearly all the languages of the world. They are acquainted with all the customs, prejudices, and opinions of the nations of the earth and therefore have no need of engaging in the time consuming work of learning languages as the modern missionary must do.
3. Though the Jews at this present time are like extinguished candles the law of God though not practised by the world is in the world by them and in every synagogue in all nations. All that is needful to illuminate it to the world is to light those candles. When God pours a spirit of grace on the Jews and they look on him whom they have pierced (Zech. 12:9-14) and are brought to see the true meaning of His law and the spirit of the evangelist shines into their synagogues the world will be quickly illuminated. The Gospel truth will go with the speed of sunlight from place to place, until the whole earth is enlightened with the knowledge of the Redeemer.
4. The Jews, when converted, make the best missionaries. There is a freshness in their views of the Messiah when they are converted, which Gentile converts seldom feel (the apostles were all Jews). The zeal of Paul shows what converted Jews will do when they become engaged in making known the true Messiah. It has been said of their nation that they would travel across sea and land to make a single proselyte, what will more than three million accomplish when they become converted to the true faith of the Redeemer?

We have every reason to expect that God intends to make great use of the Jews, whom He has preserved and scattered everywhere. Though they are but a remnant, when converted as Paul was they will be more than is needed in converting the world to their Messiah who they rejected (taken from Barnes Bible notes).

Add to this all the converted faithful Gentiles worldwide and it is easy to see how the Gospel would very quickly spread amongst the nations especially with Christ ruling as King of kings and Lords with his government from the Holy City Jerusalem on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain.

When God's appointed time comes for the redemption of His people Israel and the Gospel is publicly preached the mountains of opposition and antichristian countries will become plains before the evangelist and the world as we know it will be changed forever.

Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel: (v6) in this verse the Holy One of Israel is pictured as being in the midst of his people. This naturally refers to that glorious day when Christ returns in glory to gather the faithful to himself and establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth.

The glory of the spiritual temple God is building in Christ: Jews and Gentiles are being united together as one body in Christ to be a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Believing Jews and Gentiles are being prepared by the prophets and apostles teachings and by the influence of Christ and the Holy Spirit to become a majestic and glorious sacred temple in which God dwells for all eternity.

When this majestic building is completed there will be nothing so worthy of reverence since God dwells in it; so ancient since the patriarchs and prophets laboured in building it; so solid since love cements it together; so closely united and indivisible since Christ is the corner stone; so exalted since it reaches as high as heaven and to God himself; so full of wisdom since its specifications are the word of God; so full of light since the Holy Spirit dispels every dark corner; so spacious since it is spread over the whole earth; so invincible and indestructible since it is being built by God, by Christ, by the Holy Spirit and by the influence of God's eternal word; so divine since it is a living, vibrant, dynamic temple inhabited by the Holy Spirit, and so universal since all its unique stones though spread throughout the world are compacted together in Christ.

God is the master builder of this majestic and glorious temple; Christ is the corner stone; faithful believers are the proper materials; the prophets and apostles are its foundation and the Gospel and love its pillars. Christ is the door and faith is the entrance into it. It is a spiritual building and through, faith and grace this living building is growing into an eternal house fit for the most Holy God to dwell in.

It's beauty and radiance will surpass all temples that have ever gone before it since it will be adorned with a vast variety of rich colour made up of Jews and Gentiles of every age, country, sex, and condition: the mightiest of kings, the most renowned lawgivers, the most profound philosophers, the most eminent scholars and all those of whom the world was not worthy have formed this building, (taken from the beautiful writings of a faithful, but unknown brother in Christ).

Peter wrote: -

- Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame (1 Pet. 2:6).

Every faithful brother and sister in Christ are represented as living stones that God is using to build this spiritual, majestic temple of eternal glory which will be manifested in splendour for all to see when: -

- The Lord himself descends from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ are raised then we who are alive are caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (1 Thess. 4:15-18).

End.