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Isaiah 59

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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 perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Isaiah 59.

Topics.

- Israel's iniquities have separated them from God.
- They hatch adders' eggs a viper is born and all who eat their eggs dies.
- They are swift to shed blood and destruction is in their highways.
- We stumble like the blind, growl like bears and moan like doves.
- The LORD saw that truth and justice was lacking and it displeased Him.
- A redeemer will come to Zion, to those who turn from transgression.
- My words shall not depart from your children's offspring forevermore.

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 TO THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

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.

ISAIAH 59:1-4

Israel's iniquities have separated them from God.

- **Isaiah 59:1-4:** Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; ²but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear. ³For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies; your tongue mutters wickedness. ⁴No one enters suit justly; no one goes to law honestly; they rely on empty pleas, they speak lies, they conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity.

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In the previous chapter Israel asked God, "Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?" (Isaiah 58:3). They could not understand why God was not answering their prayers and why they were still suffering and in misery when they were fasting and seeking God in prayer. Isaiah now tells them that God's power is not lacking to save them and that He does hear their prayer, but does not answer them because there is a separation between Him and them and therefore, He chooses not to hear their prayers because of the following iniquities and sins:

- They were guilty of taking innocent lives.
- They spoke lies of deception and their speech was full of wickedness.
- They perverted justice for their own advantage and gain.
- They plotted and planned wrongdoing and were troublemakers.

These verses and the previous chapter shine a spotlight upon the following truth. When God's people fast; seek God daily; delight to do outward religious deeds; dress themselves in religious garments; strictly attend church and every Bible class; adhere to ceremonial rites and holy days and keep every religious customs and tradition on Sunday. But on every other day of the week give God no thought and do as they please and care not how their behaviour and speech reflects on the honour of God and the good name of Jesus. Then all their religious efforts and works count for nothing if outside of doing them they deliberately live a lifestyle

that brings dishonour to God's name and a bad testimony to the good name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Though Israel did and lived as they pleased, they believed they were righteous and had not forsaken the laws of God, because they adhered to the outward religious practises of Israel. They delighted to draw near to God (Isaiah 58:2), but only on their terms, they were happy to keep their outward religious customs, providing they could live as they pleased.

It is interesting to notice: that most cults are heavily laden with ritual and outward religious practises. This is because they believe they are made righteous regardless of what they say or how they live their lives as long as they adhere to their outward religious practises.

A personal testimony: some years ago, a Christian man told me that when he was a teenager, he was in a church in which the elders required the men to wear black trousers; a long sleeve white shirt; a tie and a black jacket even in the hot summer months. He said, even though he thought it was ridiculous it was good for him, because he could do as he pleased during the week and as long as he turned up on Sunday in his black trousers and jacket, his long sleeved white shirt and tie he was accepted as a holy and righteous man able to perform all the duties the church required during the service.

Now here is the foolishness of this type of religion, if a man who did do all the right things before God during the week and did bring a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ turned up in a summer shirt and dress shorts with shoes and long socks, he would not only be considered a bad testimony, but would also be disqualified from doing any duty in the church. This is the stupidity of judging people's heart and salvation by outward things especially clothing.

ISAIAH 59:5-6

Adders' Eggs Hatch, a Viper is Born, all who Eat their Eggs Dies.

- **Isaiah 59:5-6:** They hatch adders' eggs; they weave the spider's web; he who eats their eggs dies, and from one that is crushed a viper is hatched. ⁶Their webs will not serve as clothing; men will not cover themselves with what they make. Their works are works of iniquity, and deeds of violence are in their hands.

They hatch adders' eggs: means they give birth to children full of iniquity.

They weave the spider's web: means they entrap others in their wickedness.

Those who eat their eggs dies: means those who join them become enticed in their deceptions lies and wickedness.

From one that is crushed a viper is hatched: means when one dies another even worse arises.

Their webs will not serve as clothing: means their wickedness will not be hidden.

Their webs will not serve as clothing: a spider's webs is useless for clothing however spiders spend much labour spinning their webs and the only purpose a spiders web serves is that they catch flies and these flies die in the web The idea is that it matters not how much labour God's people spend in religious practises if their life is full of wickedness and violence they are unfit for salvation

ISAIAH 59:7-9

They are Swift to Shed Blood and Destruction is in their Highways.

- Isaiah 59:7-9: Their feet run to evil, and they are swift to shed innocent blood; their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; desolation and destruction are in their highways. ⁸The way of peace they do not know, and there is no justice in their paths; they have made their roads crooked; no one who treads on them knows peace. ⁹Therefore justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.

This is almost unbelievable, God's chosen people actually kill innocent people and they don't fall into sin, they run to it. This carries the idea that unlike the faithful who may sin because of past baggage; the weakness of the flesh; past or present hurts or a lack of wisdom, the people in focus here deliberately sin in that they pervert justice for their own advantage and oppress the poor for their own gain. The common people that do seek for truth and righteousness only find falsehood, lies, deceit and gloom and those who do follow their false doctrines and legalistic laws never find salvation, contentment and peace.

ISAIAH 59:10-11

We stumble like the Blind, Growl like Bears and Moan like Doves.

- **Isaiah 59:10-11:** We grope for the wall like the blind; we grope like those who have no eyes; we stumble at noon as in the twilight, among those in full vigor we are like dead men. ¹¹We all growl like bears; we moan (mourn in KJV) and moan (mourn in KJV) like doves; we hope for justice, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far from us.

We grope for the wall like the blind: (v10) the sins of those who confess themselves to be God's people brings shame and dishonor to God and the good name of Jesus and for these reasons they are worse than the sins of others. When God's people lie and cheat and pervert justice for their own advantage and oppress the poor for their own gain, it is just with God to withdraw His favour and hide from their eyes the things that bring joy, contentment peace and salvation. When sins of a nation are not restrained by honest justice, they bring God's judgments upon that nation. People may complain and mummer against God under calamities or weep and pray, but nothing will truly profit while they continue in their wickedness.

We roar all like bears: (v11) most likely refers to a bear that is hungry and growls for its food and is used here to signify the complaining, dissatisfaction, and murmuring of the people, because God did not come to vindicate and relieve them from their long-continued calamity, miseries and anguish inflicted upon them by their enemies (especially during their seventy years in captivity to Babylon).

We moan like doves: (v11) (mourn like doves in KJV) the cooing of the dove when it has lost its mate is often used to denote grief and sorrowful lamentations.

- If any survivors escape, they will be on the mountains, like doves of the valleys, all of them moaning (mourning in KJV), each one over his iniquity. (Ezekiel 7:16).
- Like a swallow or a crane I chirp; I moan (mourn in KJV) like a dove. My eyes are weary with looking upward. O Lord, I am oppressed; be my pledge of safety! (Isaiah 38:14).

The expression, "we moan like doves and growl like bears," outwardly signifies that all are in a sorrowful state, some more and some less

We hope for justice and salvation, but there is none: (v11) their mourning and moaning is a mixture of the following two things:

1. They are suffering long and continued anguish and grief inflicted upon them by their enemies and it seems like there is no end to such miseries (especially during their seventy years in captivity to Babylon).

2. They realise that God's favour is not with them and that instead of being filled with spiritual insight, hope and peace they are walking in darkness (v9) (i.e., spiritually blind). This of course is because of their gross wickedness. No one who deliberately lives a lifestyle of wickedness should expect to find favour with God.

As a nation Israel was so spiritually blind that they did not realise that living a godly lifestyle and treating others with honest justice, decency and respect is the foundation to spirituality and God's favour. As one travels through the Scriptures it becomes clear that the pillars of God's throne and the foundation of it and of His Kingdom are:

- Love and holiness.
- Righteousness (meaning doing what is right and good).
- Justice and mercy.
- Grace and longsuffering.
- Joy and peace.

These pillars embrace honesty, moral virtue, integrity truthfulness, fairness for all and kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22). These are the foundation and pillars of God's throne which means that all who belong to His Kingdom should do all they can to make them the foundation and pillars of their life. (Psalm 89:14) (Psalm 97:2). Jesus summed up all the commandments of God in the words, love your neighbour as yourself, (Mark 12:31) meaning do-good to others and treat them with respect. Paul in his letter to the Romans wrote:

- Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (Romans 13:10).

Paul shines a brilliant spotlight on the truth that the spirit underpinning the law is love, because the spirit of the law is to protect the innocent from all types of harm and hurt, whoever keeps the law will do no wrong to a neighbour (neighbour embraces all mankind not just those in God's Kingdom). Next to loving God with all our heart, mind and strength the command to love your neighbours as yourself is not only the greatest commandment in the entire Bible and under sun, the moon, the stars and all the heavenly hosts, but also the greatest commandment before God and the Lord Jesus Christ. To love your neighbour as yourself, (Matt. 22:39) means do not deliberately do harm to other humans. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself.

James the brother of Jesus said:

- If you really fulfil the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself," you are doing well. (James 2:8).

James calls Jesus command, "Love your neighbour as yourself," the royal law and says if we are keeping this one law we are doing well. The thing God hates the most is when we deliberately do harm to another person, physically, verbally, financially sexually, emotionally or spiritually and the thing God loves the most is when we do-good to others.

- Micah wrote: "What the LORD requires of mankind is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with their God" (Micah 6:5-10).
- Isaiah says: "The LORD loves justice, hates robbery and wrong doing" (Isaiah 61:8).
- Jeremiah said: "Those who know God practise steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, because it is in these things that God delights" (Jer. 9:24).

The great prophets Micah, Isaiah and Jeremiah not only show the law is about doing-good to others and protecting them from harm and hurt, but also clearly show that the spirit under-pinning the Ten Commandments, is love because each law protects another human from harm. The faithful in Christ's global Kingdom not only understand that righteousness that leads to eternal life is a free gift of God that comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and cannot be earned by self-effort, but also know that from the love of God dwelling within their heart and displayed on the bloodstained cross of Calvary they are called to live a lifestyle that honours the King and Saviour they worship and follow and called to treat others with decency, respect and honest justice not to get saved, but because it honours God and brings a good testimony to the name of Jesus and the Christian faith and because it is the right and loving thing to do.

Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount: the constant theme throughout Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount is doing what is right before God by seeking the way of peace in all situations. Jesus calls Christians to treat people fairly and with respect, dignity, decency grace compassion, kindness, mercy and to be quick to forgive. This means living a life that honours God and the Lord Jesus Christ is about doing right to those in the church and those outside of it. This is the reason the message Jesus spoke on the mountain is referred to as, "The Famous Sermon" because the principals if followed not only by Christians, but all humanity are the only way to peace (Matt 5). Based on the commandment, love your neighbour as yourself and the law it could be said that a wicked and evil person is one who deliberately and consciously denies the existence of God and deliberately does harm to other humans. For further information on Jesus Famous Sermon see:

- Matthew 5 in, Commentary NT (ON WEBSITE MENU).

ISAIAH 59:12-15

Truth and Justice was Lacking and it displeased the LORD.

- **Isaiah 59:12-15:** For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities: ¹³transgressing, and denying the LORD, and turning back from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words. ¹⁴Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. ¹⁵Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.

He who departs from evil makes himself a prey: (V15) this means that the leaders or the group turned against whoever did not accept their wicked ways and treated them like an enemy. Evil here does not just refer to such things as murder, theft, perverting justice etc., but also embraces false doctrines and the worship of idols and foreign gods that Israel had embraced. The faithful who refused to be partakers of these things were treated like enemies. It could be likened to the ancient days when the Catholic Church established certain Christian doctrines (many of them false) and those who did not accept them were treated as heretics while those who spoke against them were imprisoned or put to death.

These verses contain a fantastic prayer and confession of sin: here Israel humbled themselves and prayed, "LORD we confess we have multiplied our transgressions before you, our sins testify to our wickedness, we are so sorry for denying you and not following your ways. We have wickedly oppressed others for our own gain and spoken lies, cheated the innocent out of justice and grossly lacked in righteousness. God we are truly sorry we have blinded the public from the truth and worse still made anyone who did forsake the iniquity we indulged in feel like they were our enemies." This is a true prayer of repentance. It is what the apostle Paul and John refer to in the following verses:

- If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Rom. 10:9)
- If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

NOTICE: the LORD was displeased that there was no justice. Justice is one of the great pillars of the LORD'S throne (v15).

ISAIAH 59:16-20

A Redeemer will come to Zion, to all who turn from Transgression.

- **Isaiah 59:16-20:** He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him. ¹⁷He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak. ¹⁸According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies; to the coastlands he will render repayment. ¹⁹So they shall fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come like a rushing stream, which the wind of the LORD drives. ²⁰"And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the LORD.

This group of verses can apply to two events, the first a historical event and the second a future and far more glorious and perfect fulfilment that is yet to come to pass.

1. The historical event: in a limited sense Cyrus the king of Persia can be viewed as God's own arm. The LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus and used Him as His anointed shepherd and called him by name to bring the Empire of Babylon to ruin and set the people of Israel free from their seventy years of bondage under the authority and rule of the Empire of Babylon. God equipped Cyrus (the secular king of Persia) and took him by the right hand and went before him opening all doors that no man can shut while Cyrus subdued all nations. Cyrus made a proclamation throughout his entire kingdom and also put it in writing that the LORD had charged him to let His people go, and build the LORD a House in Jerusalem. The following verses speak of Cyrus being the LORD'S anointed shepherd and picture God holding him by the right hand and opening all doors that no man can shut while Cyrus subdues all nations.

- The LORD says of Cyrus, "*He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfil all my purpose,*" saying of Jerusalem, "*She shall be built,*" and of the temple, "*Your foundation shall be laid.*" (Isaiah 44:28).
- Thus says the LORD to *his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed.* (Isaiah 45:1).
- *I (the LORD) will go before you (Cyrus king of Persia) and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you (Cyrus) by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me.* (Isaiah 45:2-3).
- *I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you (Cyrus) though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, there is none besides me; I am the LORD, there is no other.* (Isaiah 45:5-6).
- Thus says the LORD: "*The wealth of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush, and the Sabians, men of stature, shall come over to you (Cyrus) and be yours; they shall follow you; they shall come over in chains and bow down to you. They will plead with you, saying: 'Surely God is in you, and there is no other, no god besides him.'*" (Isaiah 45:14).

God used Cyrus King of Persia as His right arm and His anointed shepherd to conquer the mighty Empire of Babylon and give Israel written permission to return to their beloved city and rebuild the Temple of God. Under Ezra and Nehemiah God brought Israel and Judah back to their beloved city Jerusalem as one united nation faithful to only one God, the LORD their God, the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob (Israel never turned to idols or pagan gods again). Multitudes of Jewish families who had been scattered throughout the nations returned to Jerusalem and the land of Israel with triumphant joy and rejoicing. When the temple of God was completed their faith was once again established and a golden time of prosperity and peace followed.

The return to Zion: is believed by some to be the first time in human history where a people exiled from their homeland by the force of a foreign ruler had returned to their native soil to re-establish their own joint national home and thereby further encourage the concept of a distinct national identity for the Jewish people.

The greatest empire in the world: Cyrus reign lasted between 29 and 31 years, he is commonly known as the great King of Persia and was notable for embracing various civilizations and becoming the largest empire the world had ever seen. He built his empire by firstly conquering the Median Empire, then the Lydian Empire and eventually the Neo-Babylonian Empire. He led an expedition into central Asia (either before or after Babylon), which resulted in major campaigns that were described as having brought "into subjection every nation without exception." He respected the customs and religions of the lands he conquered and at the end of his rule, the Achaemenid Empire (also called the First Persian Empire) stretched from Asia Minor in the west to the north-western areas of India in the east. It is said that in universal history, the role of the Achaemenid Empire founded by Cyrus lies in its very successful model for centralized administration and establishing a government working to the advantage and profit of its subjects.

2. The future and far more glorious and perfect fulfilment that is yet to come to pass: transcends the era of the Babylonian captivity and Cyrus and echoes a future King who the LORD also calls His right arm and His anointed shepherd, and his name is not Cyrus, but the Lord Jesus Christ, who 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 this 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).

It should be noted: that as glorious as Christ's millennial reign will be it is not the final stage of God's eternal plan for mankind's salvation that he planned and purposed in His eternal mind before the world began. At the end of Christ's millennial reign 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 eternal perfect 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).

Overview: Isaiah says that the arm of the LORD will put on righteousness and salvation and also minister the vengeance of the LORD on his enemies. Cyrus was used as God's right arm and called the LORD'S anointed shepherd and the Lord Jesus Christ also acted as God's right arm and His anointed shepherd and both administered the LORD'S vengeance and set God's people free. By God's Spirit and under His hand Cyrus conquered Babylon and set God's people free from their bondage and Jesus full of God's Spirit destroyed the entire religious system that held God's people in bondage to the chief priests, Pharisees and scribes legalistic power and control that they had over those who were seeking God.

The wonder, beauty and splendour of Bible prophecy is that it often has a partial local fulfilment for the people of that era and a more perfect and wider fulfilment that soars through time and history until it arrives at its predetermined destination and achieves the purpose it has been set out to accomplish.

ISAIAH 59:21

My Words shall Not Depart from Your Children's Offspring.

- **Isaiah 59:21:** "and as for me, this is my covenant with them," says the LORD: "my spirit that is upon you and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouth of your offspring, or out of the mouth of your children's offspring," says the LORD, "from this time forth and forevermore."

These verses have proved to be so true: God's words have been carried on from generation to generation and on into the New Testament where they became alive through Christ and carried on by the apostles, Jesus disciples, the women who followed Jesus and all who still testify of him today and throughout the following generations. They will continue to do so until God's eternal plans and purposes that He planned in His eternal mind before time began for this earth and His people are fulfilled.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

Bible House of Grace