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## Isaiah 60

(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 60.

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### Topics.

- God's glory has risen upon Jerusalem, nations shall come to her light.
- Multitudes will return with good news and with praises to Jerusalem.
- Foreigners will build Jerusalem and kings will bring wealth to the city.
- Israel's enemies will call the nation, city of Zion the holy one of Israel.
- The LORD will make Jerusalem majestic forever, a joy from age to age.
- The LORD will be your everlasting light and your God will be your glory.

**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.

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

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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.

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## THIS CHAPTER IS SET OUT IN THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS

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1. The historic fulfilment.
2. The future fulfilment yet to happen.
3. The wonder of Bible prophecy.
4. Nations return to Jerusalem and rebuild the city.

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## ISAIAH 60:1-5

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### **God's Glory Rose on Jerusalem Nations shall come to Her Light.**

- **Isaiah 60:1-5:** Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. <sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

**The previous chapters:** the constant theme throughout many of the previous chapters has been upon Israel's gross sins and rebellion, their seventy year captivity in Babylon and God using Cyrus the king of Persia as His anointed shepherd (Isaiah 44:28) (Isaiah 45:1) to bring the Empire of Babylon to ruin and set the people of Israel free. Most of these chapters also carry within them an echo of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth.

In the previous chapter Israel humbled themselves and prayed the following prayer:

- 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. (Isaiah 59:12-15).

Now in this chapter the focus is upon Jerusalem and God answering the cries of His people and delivering them from their bondage. The following verses show that Scripture personifies Jerusalem as the mother of Israel and as a woman giving Birth:

- There is none to guide her among all the sons she has borne; there is none to take her by the hand among all the sons she has brought up. (Isaiah 51:18).
- I heard a cry as of a woman in labour anguish as of one giving birth to her first child, the cry of the daughter of Zion gasping for breath, stretching out her hands, "Woe is me! I am fainting before murderers. (Jer. 4:31).

At the end of Israel's seventy-year captivity when Cyrus gave them permission to return and rebuild their beloved city many Jewish nations gathered for the rebuilding of Jerusalem and many returned to dwell within its walls and surrounding pasturelands,

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. When the whole scope of this prophetic vision is taken into account it becomes clear that there is intertwined within its language two events, the first being an historic fulfilment and the second being a much wider and far more perfect fulfilment yet to happen at some future time.

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## THE HISTORIC FULFILMENT

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Here Isaiah is looking upon God's people in bondage and misery to Babylon and tells them to arise for the light and glory of the LORD has risen upon them, meaning God's favour is now toward them and not against them.

**The darkness shall cover the earth:** (v3) refers to Cyrus king of Media Persia and his armies not only invading and conquering Babylon and setting God's people free, but also leading his armies into central Asia which resulted in major campaigns that were described as having brought into subjection every nation without exception and becoming the largest empire the world had ever seen.

**Nations and kings will come to the brightness of your rising:** (v3) at the end of Israel's seventy year captivity Ezra and Nehemiah lead the people of Israel 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. Multitudes of Jewish families who had been scattered throughout the nations returned to Jerusalem and the land of Israel with triumphant joy and rejoicing.

It is certain many mothers carried their baby daughters on their hip as they travelled back to their homeland.

**Kings and nations shall come to you:** (v5) when the Temple of God was completed Israel's faith was once again established and a golden time of prosperity and peace followed. During this time many kings from various nations went up to Jerusalem.

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## THE FUTURE FULFILMENT YET TO HAPPEN

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As we move through the Bible, we discover that Isaiah's prophetic message majestically transcends time and history and echoes another day when darkness will cover the earth and when God's light will shine on Jerusalem. This majestic event will be when the Lord Jesus Christ returns 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).

Isaiah in his prophetic vision saw that:

- The wealth of the nations shall come to Jerusalem. (Isaiah 60:5).

These prophetic words of Isaiah echo the following words of John in the book of Revelation:

- By its (Jerusalem's) light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. (Rev. 21:24).
- By its (Jerusalem) light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, <sup>25</sup>and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>They will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. (Rev. 21:24-26).

Isaiah in his vision during the time of Cyrus prophesied that many nations will bring to Jerusalem great wealth for the rebuilding of their beloved city Jerusalem (v5) (this literally came to pass) and in the last book of the Bible (the book of Revelation) John on the Isle of Patmos hundreds of years later sees in his prophetic vision a future time when kings and nations will bring their glory, honour and wealth to the New and Holy city of Jerusalem. During Israel's oppression under the authority and rule of the mighty Empire of Babylon it appeared to all surrounding nations and to the captives themselves impossible that they would ever be set free.

Archaeologists have found that at this time all of the cities of Judah were completely destroyed and that the glorious kingdom of David and Solomon was brought to an end. Observers would have said that the Hebrew nation was annihilated. Many of the other nations conquered by the Assyrians and Babylonians did cease to exist. 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. No one could have imagined that God would use Cyrus a secular king (and no doubt a worshipper of other gods) as His anointed shepherd to set His people free, yet Israel's freedom came about exactly as Isaiah prophesied. Likewise, Christians today cannot comprehend in exact and full detail how Christ will return in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to Jerusalem and gather the faithful to himself. Then with them acting as his government establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth. But just as Isaiah's ancient vision came to pass so too will John's vision of God's light once again shining on Jerusalem and kings and nations of the earth bringing their glory into it (Rev. 21:24) will likewise come to pass.

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## NATIONS RETURN TO JERUSALEM AND THE REBUILD THE CITY

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### ISAIAH 60:6-9

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#### **Multitudes will Return with Good News and Praises to Jerusalem.**

- **Isaiah 60:6-9:** A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD. <sup>7</sup>All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you; the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you; they shall come up with acceptance on my altar, and I will beautify my beautiful house. <sup>8</sup>Who are these that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows? <sup>9</sup>For the coastlands shall hope for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from afar, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the LORD your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has made you beautiful.

**Midian:** was a son of Abraham by Keturah, his descendants were called Midianites. Though nomads they had during the time of Moses great wealth. (Genesis 25:1-6)

**Ephah:** was the name of a son of Midian and of the region settled by him.

**Sheba:** the kingdom of Sheba (or the Sabeans) were known by the Queen of the South, the Queen of Sheba, who when she heard of the fame of King Solomon traveled to Jerusalem to ask him questions. The Sabeans are pictured in the Bible as traders in precious stones and incense.

**Kedar:** was one of the twelve sons of Ishmael the son of Abram by Hagar, these twelve sons were called princes and helped originate the Arab people. Their territory was in the northern part of the Arabian Desert.

**Nebaioth:** was the firstborn son of Ishmael the son of Abraham.

**Tarshish:** the exact location is unknown, possibly in Spain, North Africa, Sicily etc. The ships of Tarshish refer to large ships of the kind and size that were used in trade for Solomon who had ships of Tarshish going from Ezion-geber through the Red Sea and on to India, making the round trip in three years. Here they are pictured bringing multitudes of Jews back to Jerusalem with silver and gold for the LORD, because Jerusalem has been re-established as the beautiful city it once was.

**The coastlands:** refers to the nations along the coastland of the Mediterranean Sea.

**These that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows:** (v8) carries the idea that multitudes of people and families will in peace rush to visit Jerusalem. The picture presented in these verses is of the city of Jerusalem being re-established as the beautiful city it once was with multitudes of Jewish families that had been scattered throughout all nations during the Assyrian and Babylonian invasions returning in droves to their beloved city Jerusalem with great wealth and gifts for the LORD.

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## ISAIAH 60:10-11

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### Foreigners will Build Jerusalem, Kings will bring Wealth to the City.

- **Isaiah 60:10-11:** Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall minister to you; for in my wrath I struck you, but in my favor I have had mercy on you. <sup>11</sup>Your gates shall be open continually; day and night they shall not be shut, that people may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession.

In my wrath I struck you refer to the following two events:

1. To the many invasions of the Assyrian armies upon the ten tribes of Israel in the land of Samaria and upon Judah and especially to the Assyrian king Shalmaneser who overthrew the ten tribes and took the people captive.
2. To Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon who burnt the city of Jerusalem, pillaged the Temple of God and took all the inhabitants of the city captive to Babylon for seventy years.

**In my favour I had mercy on you:** (v10) refers to Cyrus king of Persia who God used as His anointed shepherd (Isaiah 44:28) (Isaiah 45:1) to conquer Babylon and give Israel written permission to return to their beloved city Jerusalem, but Isaiah's words transcend Cyrus and Babylon and travel through time and history echoing a New Age and a New Jerusalem and Holy City spoken of in the following verses by John in the Book of Revelation.

- He (an angel) carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, <sup>11</sup>having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. (Rev. 21:10-11).
- I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. (Rev. 21:22-23).
- Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>They will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. (Rev. 21:25-26).

**Israel's Enemies will Call the Nation, the Holy City of Zion.**

- **Isaiah 60:12-14:** For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you shall perish; those nations shall be utterly laid waste. <sup>13</sup>The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress, the plane, and the pine, to beautify the place of my sanctuary, and I will make the place of my feet glorious. <sup>14</sup>The sons of those who afflicted you shall come bending low to you, and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the City of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

**Lebanon:** though never totally occupied it is included in God's promise; it is a snowclad mountain range extending 100 miles along the Syrian coast with peaks reaching 10,200 above Sea Level. The melting snow creates great rivers including the Jordan River that meanders through Palestine to the Dead Sea. Writers of biblical poetry speak at length on the motion of Lebanon's famous cedar trees; their massive branches; their fragrance and on their height as a symbol of dignity and pride and on their growth and resistance to decay as a symbol of endurance. Lebanon's isolated crags, supported watch towers and refuge-points and came to symbolize the exalted status of Judah's royal house. The psalmists' speaks of the greatness of the Creator who both plants the cedars and shatters them by His voice. The Lebanon's were also famous for choice-wine the lion and the leopard.

**Isaiah makes an amazing statement concerning Lebanon:** Lebanon was not only famous for its cedar trees, but for the multitude of its animals, including the lion and the leopard, yet the LORD says:

- Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. (Isaiah 40:16).

Even all the blood of Lebanon's most glorious animals would not be enough for burnt offerings. There was only one blood type that had the right DNA to cleanse us and make us whiter than snow in the eyes of God and it was not in an animal, but a man whose name was Jesus.

**This group of prophetic verses have been partially fulfilled, but not yet fully fulfilled:** in Isaiah chapter forty-five God told Cyrus His anointed shepherd (Isaiah 44:28) (Isaiah 45:1) that He is the God who formed the earth and made it to be established and that he did not create it empty, but formed it to be inhabited! Then the LORD tells Cyrus that God's word will not return to Him empty every knee will bow and every tongue shall swear allegiance to the LORD (Isaiah 45:1, 18, 23). Paul in his letters to the Romans quotes Isaiah's prophetic words saying, "For it is written, as I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." (Rom. 14:11). Some say, God's words to Cyrus were fulfilled by the defeat of Babylon and the restoration of Jerusalem. Though there are valid reasons for drawing this conclusion it can only be taken as a partial fulfilment especially since John in his vision on the Isle of Patmos cites Isaiah's words in the following verse:

- The sons of those who afflicted Jerusalem shall come bending low to her, and all who despised Jerusalem shall bow down at her feet; they shall call Jerusalem the City of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel. (Rev. 21:14).

The fact John cites Isaiah's prophetic words shows that they have a much greater and far more perfect fulfilment yet to take place. Added to this is the fact that John in the following verses speaks of a future holy city New Jerusalem:

- Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Rev. 21:1-2).

**The LORD will make Jerusalem Majestic, a Joy from Age to Age.**

- **Isaiah 60:15-18:** Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, with no one passing through, I will make you majestic forever, a joy from age to age. <sup>16</sup>You shall suck the milk of nations; you shall nurse at the breast of kings; and you shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. <sup>17</sup>Instead of bronze I will bring gold, and instead of iron I will bring silver; instead of wood, bronze, instead of stones, iron. I will make your overseers peace and your taskmasters' righteousness. <sup>18</sup>Violence shall no more be heard in your land, devastation or destruction within your borders; you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise.

This is a beautiful picture of peace, Jerusalem here is pictured as a harmless child safely feeding from the breast of nations and kings. Under normal circumstances Jerusalem was a vibrant city with travellers and traders constantly coming and going through her gates, in contrast to this hustle and bustle of noisy streets the city is now pictured as being hated and forsaken with no one passing through. This of course was when Jerusalem laid in utter ruin during the time of Israel's seventy years in captivity to Babylon, now Isaiah prophecies that a time is coming when God will make Jerusalem a majestic city forever and a joy from age to age.

**Jerusalem will suck the milk of nations:** (v16) carries the idea that the inhabitants of Jerusalem will be the head of the nations and not the tail. It means that they will loan to nations and not borrow and that kings will bring to Jerusalem gifts of gold and silver and esteem its people with honour. Isaiah proclaims that the LORD will:

- Bless Jerusalem in such a majestic manner that her inhabitants will know that the LORD is their Saviour and Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.
- Bless Jerusalem with prosperity and make her rulers and leaders (the taskmasters) overseers of peace and righteousness (i.e., of integrity, compassion, honesty, empathy and kindness etc.).
- Remove all sorts of violence from Jerusalem's land (i.e., there will be no more war, murder or killing).
- Make Jerusalem's walls salvation and her gates praise, meaning that the city will be a city of joy before the LORD and her inhabitants will hold the keys to salvation, peace and eternal life.

Since many of the previous chapters and much of this chapter has been focused upon Israel's seventy year oppression and bondage under the authority and rule of Babylon it is tempting to apply these promises to Israel's triumphant and joyful return to Jerusalem at the end of their captivity when God brought Israel and Judah back under the leadership of Ezra and Nehemiah to their beloved city Jerusalem. At this time, they returned as one united nation faithful to only one God, the LORD their God, the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. They rebuilt the city, their homes and the Temple of God and established their true faith, during which time multitudes of Jewish families who had been scattered throughout the nations returned to Jerusalem and the land of Israel with triumphant joy and rejoicing and a golden time of prosperity and peace followed during which time kings did bring them gifts of gold and silver. Though it is certain that this glorious prophecy brought great comfort and joy to the captives of Babylon to limit it to that particular period of time is not only robbing the prophecy of its wonder and splendour, but also robbing all future generations of its majestic promises. As we travel through the next group of verses it becomes very clear that these prophetic words of Isaiah reach far beyond the generation of returned exiles.

**The LORD will be Your Everlasting Light and Your Glory.**

- **Isaiah 60:19-22:** The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give you light; but the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. <sup>20</sup>Your sun shall no more go down, nor your moon withdraw itself; for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended. <sup>21</sup>Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I might be glorified. <sup>22</sup>The least one shall become a clan, and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the LORD; in its time I will hasten it.

The language here is exceedingly beautiful it foretells the great glory which will exist in the New Heavenly and Holy City of God, a glory that makes the light of our sun, moon and stars as nothing. The idea is that the light and beauty of the New Heavenly City of Jerusalem will be so great that the light of it will be vastly superior to all the natural splendour of the sun and moon. All the wonders and beauties of the natural world will be as shadows when the superior brightness of the New Jerusalem shines its glorious light upon the earth we dwell upon. Today the brilliant light of the sun brings light and life to our earth and warmth to our bodies and the shining full moon causes us to stand in awe and wonder at its beauty, but as glorious as the light of the sun and moon are they will no longer be needed in the radiance of the greater light and exceeding brightness, splendour and majesty of Christ appearing amongst his people. As the light of a candle is made useless and unnecessary by the light of the sun, so the light of the sun and moon will be made useless and unnecessary by the vastly superior light and glory of Christ and even more so when God is ALL in All and Eternity begins in all its perfect royal eternal glory.

- I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. (Rev. 21:22-23).
- Night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. (Rev. 22:5).

Isaiah's amazing prophetic words spoken in this chapter carry with them an echo of the Lord Jesus Christ when he returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to gather the faithful to himself and rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth. For further information concerning this glorious New Age, see the title:

- The future fulfilment yet to happen, following (v1-5) (above).

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*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.*

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