

Thursday Evening Bible Study  
**Series: The Book of Isaiah**

Teaching Summary for Week 143

**Isaiah 51:17-23**

Recall the bigger picture:

Outline of Isaiah 51:1-52:12

<b>Section</b>	<b>Message</b>
51:1-8	Listen to Me – My salvation shall be forever.
51:9-16	The LORD your Maker will soon free the exile.
51:17-23	The LORD your God contends for His people.
52:1-6	My people shall know My name.
52:7-12	The LORD has bared His holy arm.

Our current passage :

**Chapter 51, Verses 17-23:** There is a **remarkable turn of fortune** for Judah here. It begins with Isaiah addressing Judah, telling her that she has come close to destruction under the fierce wrath of God. Then the Lord speaks, telling Judah that her desolation is coming to an end.

Keep your eyes on **the cup of the Lord's anger** – whose hands it is in. That tells the story of this section.

Let's read **Isaiah 51:17-23**.

<b>Verses</b>	<b>The cup</b>	<b>Results</b>
<b>51:17-20</b>	Jerusalem has drunk from the cup of the Lord's wrath	Drunkenness: Her men stagger, Calamities have befallen her; There is no one to comfort her; Her sons are helpless – in particular, her priests, prophets (false), and kings .
<b>51:21-23</b>	The Lord removes the cup from her hand and puts in the hands of her tormenters	The Lord defends His people Israel; They will never drink the goblet of His wrath again. The Lord's wrath is coming upon her enemies, who tortured and humiliated her.

Major themes: comparing scripture with scripture.

1. The *reversal of fortunes*. Starting point is “Therefore” in Isaiah 51:21.

Let's examine:

**First: Jeremiah 25:8-14**

**Then: Isaiah 54:7-8; Lamentations 4:21-22; Obadiah 10-21**

2. The *cup of God's wrath*. Starting point is Isaiah 51:17, 18, and 22.

Let's examine:

**First: Jeremiah 25:15-29**

**Then: Psalm 75:8; Jeremiah 49:12-13; Habakuk 2:15-17; Revelation 14:10; 16:19**

3. *Drunkenness*. Starting point is Isaiah 51:17, 21, 22.

Let's examine:

**Isaiah 19:14 (Egypt); Isaiah 28:1-4 (Samaria); Isaiah 29:9-12 (Israel during the Assyrian crisis)**