

Thursday Evening Bible Study
Series: The Book of Isaiah

Teaching Summary for Week 22

Chapters 24-27 of Isaiah: “In that Day”: The ultimate destiny of Israel and the nations

Overview

Chapters 24-27 deal with the **end times**: the **Tribulation** period, the **(Second) Coming** of the Lord, and the Messianic **Kingdom**.

There are two classes of mankind in view in chapters 24-27: **the enemies of the Lord**, and **the faithful remnant of Israel**.

This section hinges on the phrase “**in that day**”. That day refers to **the Day of the Lord – the Great Tribulation and the Second Coming of the Lord**.

The Day of the Lord is a time of judgment for the Lord’s enemies, and redemption for the Lord’s people. The Day of the Lord is followed by the Messianic Kingdom.

The phrase “in that day” appears seven times in chapters 24-27, and at least once in each chapter. Last time we read these seven verses:

Isaiah 24:21

Isaiah 25:9

Isaiah 26:1

Isaiah 27:1, 2, 12, 13

There is a definite progression from chapter 24 through chapter 27.

The section starts with the destruction of the earth and its inhabitants in the Tribulation Period (chapter 24), and ends with Israel being in the Messianic Kingdom (chapter 27).

At the same time, each chapter has material on both the Day of the Lord and the Messianic Kingdom. It's a matter of emphasis.

Review of **chapter 24.**

While Chapter 24 is primarily about the Tribulation Period, verses 21-23 describe the Second Coming and the Messianic kingdom, and verses 13-16a record the joyful singing of the Jewish remnant as they await the return of the Lord.

Chapter 24 is graphic and disturbing. It presents the destruction of the earth and its inhabitants (verses 1-20), followed by the arrival of the Lord “in that day” (verses 21-23). In that day, He will punish His enemies and rule on Mount Zion.

The material in Isaiah chapter 24 has much in common with Matthew 24 and the book of Revelation chapters 6-19.

This is not surprising since these chapters also deal with the same Tribulation Period.

Let's read –

Matthew 24:21-22, 29-40.

Revelation 6:12-17; 18:22; 19:4, 15.

Note the great trumpet and the sword. We will see them again in Isaiah 27.

Chapter 25.

In chapter 25, **Isaiah looks out into the future.** He sees or prophesizes about the coming Kingdom. Notice the verb “will” in verses 6-12. Yet he begins with the wonders the Lord has already performed (verses 1-5).

In verses 1-5, Isaiah is praying to the Lord (“You” and “I”). In verses 6-12, the Lord is spoken of in the third person (“He”, “the Lord”.)

Verses 6-10a provide an unparalleled description of the Messianic Kingdom (and the eternal state!).

Verses 6-8a concern all peoples. Verses 8b-10a concern “His people” – Israel.

While the emphasis is on the coming Kingdom, chapter 25 also describes the Lord’s work in wiping out “Babylon” (verses 2-3) and bringing Moab down to the dust (verses 10b-12). [see Explanations] .

Let’s **read chapter 25** together now.

Chapter 26.

Chapter 26:1-18 is **a song that the Jewish remnant will sing** at the time that the Lord returns. Notice “have”, “has”, and “is about to”. The song is sung to the Lord.

In verses 19-21, **Isaiah speaks directly to that future Jewish remnant** at some time before the Lord’s return. He speaks of the Lord’s imminent return.

He gives them a remarkable prophecy in verse 19: the Old Testament believers and the Tribulation martyrs will be resurrected bodily when the Lord returns. See also Daniel 12:2. The Lord will also punish the inhabitants of the earth at that time (verse 21).

There could not be a greater contrast between the righteous (as in verse 7) and the wicked (as in verse 10) in chapter 26.

“Your enemies” (verse 11) and “us” (verse 12).

“You have destroyed them (verse 14). “You have increased the nation” (verse 15).

“Your dead will not live “ (verse 14). “Your dead will live “ (verse 19).

“Come My people” (verse 20) and “punish the inhabitants of the earth” (verse 21).

Let's **read chapter 26** together now.

Chapter 27.

The phrase “in that day” appears four times in chapter 27: two at the beginning (verses 1 and 2) , and two at the end (verses 12 and 13).

Verse 1 of chapter 27 picks up right where chapter 26 left off: with the Lord punishing His enemies.

Leviathan represents the enemies of God, both human and angelic, who will be punished by the Lord at His return. Satan is the dragon and the serpent in the book of Revelation. Rev 12:9, 20:2. The Lord will deploy His fierce, great, mighty sword. See Rev 19:15.

Verses 2-5 are a **song that the Lord will sing for His vineyard** in the Kingdom. The vineyard represents Israel. It is the counterpart to the song of the Lord's vineyard in chapter 5:1-7.

Whereas in chapter 5 the Lord was about to discipline His vineyard, here in chapter 27 He has redeemed her. The Lord will redeem Israel at the time of His return. Then He will care for her, protect her and nourish her.

Verse 6 describes Israel fulfilling her mission at last. All the nations will stream to Jerusalem to worship the Messiah.

Verses 7-13 are the grand finale of these four chapters. Isaiah strikes the great themes of this section of scripture:

1. Israel is chastened for her iniquities, (verses 7-9).
2. the enemies of the Lord and His people are destroyed (verses 10-11)
3. Israel is redeemed and all the peoples of the earth are blessed. (verses 12-13)

Verse 7 contrasts the complete destruction of the enemies of Israel (the first “them” is slain) with the chastening of Jacob (Israel in rebellion). The answer to both questions is “No!”.

Verse 8 talks about the chastening of Judah during the Babylonian exile.

Verse 9 describes how the Lord forgives Jacob after He disciplines him. All the idols will be destroyed.

Verses 10-11 describes the Lord’s condemnation of His enemies.

Verses 12-13 describing the regathering of His people Israel to Jerusalem.

Verse 12 matches the boundaries of the promised land (Gen 15:18; Josh 1:4). See map on page 8.

Let’s **read chapter 27** together now.

Explanations

24:5	The everlasting covenant is the covenant of Gen 9:1-16 (between the Lord and the human race)
24:10	The city of chaos and confusion refers to Babylon in the Tribulation. Babylon represents all Gentile opposition to the Lord in the end times (Rev 18:2-21). See also 24:12, 25:2, 26:5, & 27:10.
24:21	The host of heaven refers to the fallen angels. See Eph 6:12.
25:2-3	The destruction of all Gentile opposition to the Lord, represented by Babylon.
25:8	“this mountain” refers to Mount Zion. Note “all peoples” – both Jews and Gentiles in the kingdom
25:10	Moab represents the pride of God’s enemies.
26:1	The strong city is the city of Jerusalem in the Kingdom. See also 24:23 and 27:13.
26:13-14	Earthly rulers who oppressed Israel.
26:15	Israel inherits the entire promised land of the Abrahamic covenant when Christ returns.
26:18	The impotence of Israel in rebellion. She did not fulfill her mission: to bring the nations to worship the Lord.
26:19	The bodily resurrection of OT believers and Tribulation saints
27:1	Leviathan represents the enemies of God, both human and angelic, who will be punished by the Lord at His return. Satan is the dragon and the serpent in the book of Revelation. Rev 12:9, 20:2.
27:2	The vineyard here is redeemed Israel in the Messianic Kingdom.
27:8	The Babylonian Captivity
27:9	Idolatry is wiped out.

The Promised Land of Genesis 15:18

