Good evening and welcome to our midweek Bible study. We're so glad that you're joining us online. On Thursday nights, we're going through the Bible, and we are in this amazing book of Isaiah. Last week we finished chapter 13, so tonight will be in chapter 14, which comes after 13, which I know is deeply profound. If you're not already there, we will encourage you to turn there so you can join us in our study.

Before we jump in, I just want to give a shout-out to everyone that was so supportive of my daughter, Sabia. She actually came in second place, which is okay. She was actually 1st place and... Never mind. She is the winner of a pizza party, and she's going to donate it back to the children there at the hospital for "Make A Wish." Again, I just want to say thank you to all of you that supported her. You are just amazing, so gracious, supportive, and such a blessing to my ohana [family in Hawaiian]. I can't tell you enough how much that means to me, so thank you so much.

All right, why don't we pray? We'll ask God to bless our time together in his Word tonight if you would please join with me. Loving heavenly Father, would you at this time just settle our hearts and clear our minds so that we can give you our undivided attention. Especially with the portion that we have here before us in your Word in Isaiah. Lord, we need for the Holy Spirit to speak in that still small refining voice in such a way that we would hear what it is that the Spirit is saying to us, your church. Lord, we need to hear you speak into our lives and minister to us, Lord. I know many come here or watch online on a Thursday night or after and just heavy and burdened and discouraged and even downcast. Lord, I pray that you would, as only you can just strengthen our hearts and encourage our hearts with what we have here tonight in your Word. Lord, thank you for your Word, and thank you for our time together that we have tonight in your Word. Bless it we pray in Jesus' name. Amen and amen.

All right. Commencing with chapter 13 last week and then this is going to be on through to chapter 23, we embarked on a study of what's referred to as the "Book of Burdens." Isn't that perky? Burdens because of the heaviness of the judgments from God on the nations that surround Israel, that Isaiah is prophesying to Israel, which is interesting.

The reason I emphasize and point that out is that one would think that these judgments coming upon these surrounding nations would serve as a warning to these surrounding nations, but it's not. This is not for them. It's certainly a judgment coming upon them. However, it is prophesied to Israel. Why? That's the question.

The question becomes one of: Why would God declare to Israel what he will do for Israel concerning the enemies of Israel? That's the question. I would suggest that the answer to that question is the same answer to our question concerning the enemy today, which I think you would agree as you see the evil in the world today seems to be waxing worse and worse with each passing day. It almost seems as if evil is prospering, and the wicked are getting away with it. As believers in and followers of Jesus Christ, it has become abundantly clear that we have way overstayed our welcome in this world, not our home in here. That's why we have Isaiah... Did I strike a chord? I think so. You feel my pain, right?

Well, that's why we have a chapter like this in our Bibles. It's because God wants us to have hope in him, trust in him, and know, now, that he is going to have the final Word in the end. And just like them, then, he wants us, now, to know: I'll take care of it. I got this. I know what they're doing. Oh, I know it might look on the outward appearance as if they're getting away with it. It might even seem as though I'm letting them get away with it. So much so that, if you're anything like me and I suspect that you are, it's kind of like, Lord, do you see what they're doing? Yes, I do. Do you know what they're doing? Of course, I know what they're doing. I'm all-knowing. I know exactly what they're doing.

Actually, we're going to talk about that, Lord willing, on Sunday in the Prophecy Update, the evil plan of man. But here's the thing; God has a plan too. Right? And in the end, it will be his plan that will prevail over the evil plan of man. He wants to remind us of that. He wants us to know that going into this because if we don't understand that and believe that, by faith, God is going to have the final Word. God overrules all and rules over all.

I am looking forward to the day, and I say this in a sanctified way when every knee will bow, and every ugly tongue [and they're ugly] will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. I can't wait, but I have to wait, and so do you. It's like God is saying, "Just wait - you'll see." We talked about this a little bit last week, and I kind of want to pick up on this, and I'll tell you why.

It's these four words: "Just Wait - You'll See" that settled my heart. Because absent knowing by faith that God is going to judge in the end, I would go out of my mind. It keeps me settled, anchored, and, dare I say, and this is not hyperbole. It keeps me sane, sanity in a world of insanity. It's like God's saying, just settle down, calm down, just wait, and you'll see what I'm going to do. Just wait - you'll see.

You'll see what I'm going to do in the end. What are you going to do? Lord? Oh! I'm going to judge, and I'm going to destroy Satan and bring an end to evil. Just wait - you'll see. I hope you don't mind, but I'm going to be saying that a lot tonight. So, when you go home tonight, you know what's going to happen? You're going to be hearing, "Just wait - you'll see," and that's a good thing.

This is what we're about to see here in this chapter specifically as it relates to Babylon, both then and now, as well as the enemy behind Babylon, the Devil himself. God is going to take care of it. Just wait, you'll see. Verse 1, "For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob..." Do you know who Jacob is? Israel. "... and will still choose Israel." That's interesting.

The reason it's interesting is because oftentimes we're so prone to think, man, where's God? It seems like my prayers are bouncing off the ceiling. My prayers, my pleas are met with just silence. No, he's still there. "...and settle them in their own land. The strangers will be joined with them, and they will cling to the house of Jacob, then people will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them for servants and maids in the land of the Lord. They will take them captive whose captives they were and rule over their oppressors."

Right out of the chute here, the first 2 verses speak to how that God's judgment is synonymous with God's mercy. Let me explain. The Lord is going to have mercy on Israel. The Lord is going to have mercy on his people. The Lord is going to have mercy on us. How? By judging them, by judging the enemy. In judging the enemy, he's showing mercy to us.

Verse 3, "It shall come to pass in the day the Lord gives you rest from your sorrow [listen to this now] and from your fear." Where do I sign? Rest from my sorrow? Rest from my fear? Oh yeah, and it gets better. "And the hard bondage in which you were made to serve. That you [verse 4] will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon and say, 'How the oppressor has ceased, the golden city seized! The Lord [verse 5] has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers. He who struck the people in wrath with a continuous stroke. He who ruled the nations in anger is persecuted, and no one hinders."

In other words, not only is this for the king of Babylon, then, it's also a prophecy for Babylon in both Revelation 17-18; stay with me on this. This is a 2-fold prophecy. Because we see Babylon-the system, the Babylon system-the world system of the Antichrist merge and re-emerge and rear its ugly head and it's ugly. I'm into ugly tonight. I don't know why. We see it in Revelation. God will judge Babylon, and Babylon will fall. It is decisive, and it will happen. We're going to see that here in a moment.

Verse 7, "The whole earth is at rest and quiet." I like that word quiet, don't you? I would love me some of that "there quiet" because my life is kind of noisy and busy and loud. I like quiet. I like rest. I think of the words of the Savior, "Come unto me all you that are heavy laden, weary, burdened, busy, and I will give you rest for your souls. My burden is light. My yoke is easy. My way is quiet! Oh, that quiet!

"They break forth into singing. Indeed [verse 8], the cypress trees rejoice over you and the cedars of Lebanon saying, 'Since you were cut down, no woodsman has come up against us." This is interesting, verse 9, "Hell from beneath is excited about you, to meet you at your coming. It stirs up the dead for you, all the chief ones of the earth. It has raised up from their thrones, all the kings of the nations. They all [verse 10] shall speak and say to you, "Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us?"

What in the world is this about? Well, it's about Satan and the welcoming committee there to greet him in hell. Here's the thing, very important, please don't miss this. Satan is not going to be in charge of hell! Is that not the image that we have? Like, he's down there in charge of hell. No! He's not going to be in charge of hell. He will be tormented in hell just as all those he brought with him to hell. I can't wait.

Just wait - you'll see. It will happen. He's going to get what's coming to him. By the way, I don't think it's going to be too long with the way things are going in the world today. Would you agree with that too? Again, you'll forgive me if I'm repeating myself, but God wants us to know this now. He wants us to be mindful of this now because when you see what's happening, it keeps you anchored because, okay, just wait - you'll see. You're going to get it. You're going to get yours.

I mean, right now, you're having a heyday, aren't you? Well, you have reservations in this place called hell, and apparently, they're very excited for you to come. They're going to be right there to meet you, and actually, they're going to ask you a question. Oh! Come on in. You've become just like us! Come on in. We're going to be here for a while.

By the way, let me just parenthetically say, contrary to what the demonic and satanic songs sing about, about being on the highway to hell and all my friends are going to be there too. Well, not mine, I hope They will be, but it's not going to be a party. It's going to be hell, and it's for all eternity. You are going to be judged and Satan with you.

Verse 11, "Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, and the sound of your [and this is important] stringed instruments." It's verses like this, and we're going to see here in a moment in Ezekiel that have led many to believe that Lucifer, which means "Lightbearer," was actually the worship leader of heaven, the angel of music.

"...your stringed instruments. The maggot is spread under you, and worms cover you. How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning. How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations." We're going to talk a little bit about this on Sunday, Lord willing. "Deceived the nations, all the nations of the earth. For you have said in your heart, 'I will ascend into heaven.' 'I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.' 'I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north. I..."

Aye-ya-yaye! As one so aptly said, Lucifer had an "I" problem. Oh, by the way, we all have an I" problem. It should be noted that the letter "i" is right smack in the middle of the word sin. So too is "i" right smack in the middle of, wait for it; here it comes - pride. And it gets better, one more. "i" is right smack in the middle of Lucifer. Aye-ya-yaye-ya-yaye!

Let's talk about these two words, "I will." Oh, you will, will you? This is "self-will." It's been referred to as the "unholy trinity: me, myself, and I." On the throne of my life - I will! Doubtless, you've heard of an evil man by the name of Aleister Crowley. Well, I might as well go there. Why not? The Beatles?

I'm going to ruin some of your knights here when I say this - they sold their souls to the Devil. Make no mistake about it. You know that famous album, "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band?" I have to be careful here because I'll have a flashback. I'm not kidding you, and even right now, some of you are. I didn't mean to do that to you.

Do you know who Sgt. Pepper was? Oh, he taught the band to play, right? Sgt. Pepper was none other than Aleister Crowley. A Satanist in every sense of the word; Satanist, self-proclaimed. It was said of him that he was the most evil man who ever lived. He lived in the U.K., and he bought a large home.

Do you know that it was Jimmy Page and Robert Plant that actually bought that place? I'm going to take it just one step further. Please indulge me; I think you'll see why here in a moment. Arguably the most famous song ever written, do you know what it is? Stairway to Heaven. Do you know that they were sitting in Aleister Crowley's house, which they owned? One night Jimmy Page had this prompting, and he had Robert Plant get the pen to write the words to a song that had come to him. They're quoted in Rolling Stone Magazine many, many years ago as saying that it was like something pushed the pen. The words flowed effortlessly, and not one word to that song was ever changed.

I know I said that would only take it one step further. I'm going to take it one step further, okay? Aleister Crowley taught to recite backward, sing backward, walk backward. Do you know what you hear when you play "Stairway to Heaven" backward? Oh, by the way, Satanists will read backward.

Here's why: evil, e-v-i-l, is live, l-i-v-e, backward. Do you see? Do you know what "Stairway to Heaven says backward? "He will give you 666." I'm a little child of Satan. There is power in Satan. The whole song; this is something that man cannot do. This is Satan, the angel of music. He has furthered his musical career, you might say, and he's done so because he has always wanted, as we have just read, to be worshiped like God. That's what he said, "I will."

Do you know what Aleister Crowley's "whole of the law" was? You'll see it riddled throughout contemporary music and everything really; culture, popular culture. When you know this, you will look for this, and you will discern this. He said, "Do what thou wilt is the whole of the law." I will, my will, I will.

I think of the Savior there in that garden that night, perspiring just by virtue of the physiological intensity of that moment, his own blood, perspiring his own blood. He prayed, Lord, Father if there's any way for this cup to pass from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but Thy will be done. It's not, I will. It's Thy will.

Verse 15, "Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the pit. Those who see you will gaze at you and consider you saying, 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, who [verse 17] made the world as a wilderness and destroyed the cities, who did not open the house of his prisoners?"

Wow, you sound very disappointed. It's not what I expected. You! One of the most successful strategies of the Devil is to paint this picture of himself as someone who... He's just a cute little cartoon character that pops up on your shoulder every once in a while, wearing red tights and a pitchfork. And here's the other thing he's been very successful at. He has painted this picture on the canvas of mankind, of him being hideous, evil and horns... No.

This is interesting. I want to spend just a moment on this, and then I want us to look at Ezekiel chapter 28. There's a striking contrast between the response when we see Jesus and the response when we see Lucifer. Here we're told that when they see him, they are just going to be absolutely flabbergasted. You!

This is probably a poor example or comparison, but before YouTube and social media and in the days of radio. Back in the day, which "those were the days" because I have a face for radio. People would hear me on the radio, they would hear my voice, and then they would have occasion to come visit the church. They would see my face, and they're like, ha! You're not at all what I pictured.

Isn't it true? For someone, you hear their voice, but you don't see their face. You're painting a portrait of what they look like based on their voice. You see where I'm going with this, right? We do that with Satan. We've painted this picture of him based on what he's done, and it is utter horror. So, the picture we have of him is utter horror. Boy, are we in for a surprise!

It works both ways, conversely again, while I'm at it I might as well ruin your night even more. You're going to go home and have to take down some of those pictures of Jesus that you have. He did not look like that. I just want to give you kind of a heads up, as they say, so that you're not too shocked when you, "Behold the Lamb that was slain." Because instead of just marveling at his beauty, you're going to wince because you're going to behold him as the "Lamb that was slain."

Ezekiel 28, listen to this account and description of the Devil. Beginning in verse 11, "Moreover, the word of the Lord came to me saying, Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord God, 'You were the seal of perfection.'" He was perfect. "...full of wisdom and [listen] perfect in beauty." I am personally of the belief that what we just read in Isaiah, when they say, "You!" They're going to be so utterly astonished at the magnificence of his beauty. Beauty!

"You were in Eden [verse 13], the Garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship [here it is again] of your timbrels and pipes [musical instruments] was prepared for you on the day you were created."

Stop right there. This is very important too, and here's why. This is another thing Satan has been very successful at accomplishing. He has deceived people who have believed that Satan is the opposite of God. Nothing could be further from the truth. He's a created being. He's not infinite. He's not omnipotent, he's not omnipotent, he's not omnipotent. This is innocent... and I get it as much humor is used with it, but there's that saying, the Devil made me do it. Really?

Or how about this one? Man, the Devil's been attacking me. The Devil's been attacking you? Ho! I'm not worthy! Because he can't be two places at one time. So, if the Devil is attacking you? You must be really, what they call, a high-level target if the Devil himself is showing up at your address and attacking you. No, it's the demons. It's his demons, his minions.

The Apostle Paul expounds on that in Ephesians 6. In fact, there are four rankings, four different entities. Different rankings like in the military: spiritual wickedness, principalities, and powers of darkness. Different entities; different rankings. These are demons in the spiritual realm, and that is why we have spiritual warfare. But it's not the Devil.

If it is the Devil, would you stay away from me, please? I don't want the Devil anywhere near me. It's not the Devil, and he's not the opposite of God either. I've heard it said this way. This has really been of great help to me, in my understanding, and I hope it is to you. The Devil is God's devil. He is a creation that God created. It is so important, and a lot of Christians get really messed up over this.

It is really important to understand, and this is another thing we're to talk about on Sunday. That God will never allow the Devil to do anything unless, in the end, it's for his glory and your good. He will not let one hair of your head fall to the ground. He's let way too many of my hairs fall to the ground, but whatever. Ask Job. Satan had to ask for permission.

Ask Peter. No, don't ask Peter. I feel so bad for Peter. Jesus even tells him, Peter, come here. Peter, I love you, man, but here's the thing. Satan asked for permission from me to sift you as wheat. Now, if

I'm Peter, it's not in the text, but here's what I'm thinking. You told him no, right? Actually, that's what I wanted to talk to you about, Peter. I gave him permission. You did! Why would you do that? Because in the end, it's going to be for your good and for my glory. Just wait - you'll see.

Verse 14, Ezekiel 28, "You were the anointed cherub who covers. I established you. You were on the Holy mountain of God. You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created till iniquity was found in you. By the abundance of your trading, you became filled with violence within, and you sinned. Therefore, I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones. Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty. [Ahh!] You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground. I led you before kings that they might gaze at you. You defiled your sanctuaries, by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading. Therefore, I brought fire from your midst. It devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you. All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you. You have become a horror and shall be no more forever."

Do you know how long forever is? Forever! Can't wait. [Isaiah 14] Verse 18, Isaiah continues, "All the kings of the nations, all of them, sleep glory. Everyone in his own house. But you are cast out of your grave like an abominable branch, like the garment of those who are slain, thrust through with a sword, who go down to the stones of the pit like a corpse trodden underfoot. You will not be joined with them in burial because you have destroyed your land and slain your people. The brood of evildoers shall never be named. Prepare [verse 21] slaughter for his children because of the iniquity of their fathers, lest they rise up and possess the land and fill the face of the world with cities."

Verse 22, notice the, "I wills." These are the real "I wills." This is God saying I will, and he will! "I will rise up against them, says the Lord of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name and remnant, and offspring and posterity, says the Lord. I will also make it a possession for the porcupine and marshes of muddy water. I will sweep it..." Sorry about the overemphasis on it, but... "...sweep it with the broom of destruction, says the Lord of hosts.

The Lord of Hosts [verse 24] has sworn saying, Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass. And as I have purposed, so it shall stand. That I will break the Assyrian in My land and on My mountains, tread him underfoot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them and his burden removed from their shoulders."

Just a thought here really quick. In the Old Testament, replete throughout the account with the Israelites, many times you hear God tell Moses to command Aaron to say to the people. "I am the Lord, your God, who delivered you out of Egypt." Now, here's a thought, and this is a good practice when you're in the Word of God. It's that of identifying the emphasis. Stay with me. Where's the emphasis on, "I am the Lord, your God, that delivered you out of Egypt. Is it: "I am the Lord your God who delivered you out of Egypt? I am the Lord, your God who delivered you out of Egypt? A type of the world, by the way. Here's what I'm thinking. The emphasis is on I: I am the Lord, your God.

So, Moses is on Mount Sinai; apparently, he's taken a little bit too long up there, and the Israelites are getting a little bit impatient. In fact, so much time has gone by, in their eyes, that they're like, hey, he isn't ever coming back. And they said it just like that too. So, what do they do? They go to his older brother, Aaron. Aaron, where's your brother? He ain't coming back.

We need a god because we're in the market now, for a god. We need a god. What are you going to do? What do you mean, what am I going to do? Well, we need a god. Okay. He acquiesces to the pressure, takes the gold, puts it in the fire, fashions a golden calf. Where do you think they got that idea of a golden calf? Egypt. I won't get graphic in detail, but it's pretty graphic detail.

They start worshiping this golden calf, and then who should show up? Can you imagine? This is the way I think. I know they have clinical terms for people who think like this. But if I'm there and I'm looking out of the corner of my eye, I'm doing a double-take. Oh no! It's Mo [Moses]! He does not look happy - at all! What's that in his hands? I don't know, but he just threw them down to the ground and broke them. Oh, by the way, they contained the commandments of God, written by the finger of God.

He confronts Aaron. What are you doing? Nothing. What's this? Oh, about that? It's the funniest thing. I threw all this gold in the fire, and then, poof! Out comes this calf! Actually, go back, and you read the account. That's basically what he was saying. Not quite as silly as I just said it, but that was the gist of it.

Then, of course, you know the account. The people died and just the judgment of God. Then God declares this, I am the Lord, Your God! That is not your God. I am. Those gods are no gods at all. I am the Lord, Your God. Hear O Israel, I am the Lord, your God! I think we would do well to take heed because we're so quick if we're honest with ourselves. Especially when you're in the Old Testament, "Them Israelites, man. What a bunch of complainers." Oh, really? How about you? Oh, we're so quick to come down hard on the Israelites.

Can I just suggest humbly and I speak for myself as well? If we were there amongst them, we would do exactly like them - If not worse. Are you kidding me? I think about after the crossing on dry ground of the Red Sea. You would think right there that would settle it once and for all because they were complaining before that too. It wasn't just that they were complaining. It was so unthinkable. "Were there not enough graves in Egypt that God had to bring us out here to kill us? Why didn't He just kill us in Egypt? Why did He have to go through all this? Bring us out here. Weren't there enough graves there? He could have just killed us there."

There's even one account; I didn't mean to go this far into it. This is why I know God has a sense of humor. There's this dialogue between Moses and God concerning the murmuring of the Israelites throughout the account of the Israelites and the exodus. One time God just sends snakes and just kills them. There was an account, I think it's Numbers 16, with Moses' cousin Korah. There's this coup, and they want to take over.

Moses says, hey, if you want... Let's let God decide this. Let's meet tomorrow morning in the tent of meeting, and we'll let God decide this. They show up, and God says, okay. My decision is: the earth is going to open up. It swallowed and killed them all. Then they started complaining, and then God just started killing them. And Moses and Aaron [I wouldn't have done this] they start interceding on their behalf, "God have mercy on them." I would not have prayed that. I would have said, God, get them! Get them! Come on! You would have done the same thing too. That's what I mean by worse.

But throughout, the common denominator, every single time, almost without exception, was that God would declare, I am the Lord, your God, who delivered you out of Egypt - not this golden calf. And whatever that represents in your life, that's not your God. I am the Lord, your God.

Verse 26, "This is the purpose that is purposed against the whole earth, and this is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations. For the Lord of hosts has purposed [I like that word] and who will annul it? His hand is stretched out, and who will turn it back." Can I just paraphrase? Don't even think about it. Do you know what this is saying? God said it; that settles it. "God has purposed it. God has sworn it. It will come to pass." When God says I will, He will. Just wait - you'll see. I'm going to use it for a while yet, so I got a few more.

Verse 28, "This is the burden which came in the year that King Ahaz died. Do not rejoice all of you, Philistia..." In other words, kind of like don't laugh Philistia, you're next, and they are. "because the rod that struck you is broken. For out of the serpent's roots will come forth a viper, and its offspring

will be a fiery flying serpent." I don't want to see that. "The firstborn of the poor will feed, and the needy will lie down in safety. I will kill your roots with famine, and it will slay your remnant. Wail, O gate! Cry, O city! All of you Philistia are dissolved. For smoke will come from the north, and no one will be alone in his appointed time."

So, what's this about? Well, it's believed that this is speaking of King Hezekiah, who, after the death of King Ahaz, destroyed the Philistines. According to this prophecy, and it's in 2 Kings Chapter 18. I want to read verses 5-8. "Hezekiah trusted in the Lord the God of Israel. There was no one like him, among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. He held fast to the Lord and did not stop following him. He kept the commands the Lord had given Moses, and the Lord was with him. He was successful in whatever he undertook. He rebelled against the King of Assyria and did not serve him, [did not form an alliance with him] from watchtower to fortified city, he defeated the Philistines as far as Gaza and its territory."

Wait a minute, Pastor. Aren't the Philistines in Gaza the Palestinians today? No, they're not, and I'll tell you why. In the 2nd century AD, when Rome had conquered Israel and destroyed Jerusalem, it actually was a fulfillment of a prophecy from the Savior himself. It took place exactly as Jesus said it would, in 70 AD. As was the custom in that day, they would name that place that they just conquered after the arch-enemy of the people they just conquered. Who were the enemies of the Israelites? The Philistines. Originally the name was Ariela Capitalina, then they changed the name to Syria Philistia, and then they shortened it to just Philistia, which is a transliteration of Philistine or Palestine. That's where that name came from.

What if I told you that there is no such thing as a Palestinian? Well, somebody better tell them over there in Israel: you're not Palestinians. Well, what are they then? They're Arabs. What are Arabs? A melting pot of different people groups. The best illustration is, and it's the best I got. If you got a better one again, let me know. It's that of a pure-bred dog. You've got the pure German shepherds; you've got the pure Australian shepherds. Those are pure breeds.

Egyptians are not Arabs; they're Egyptians. They are pure breed Egyptians. I know the Arab people are like there's a word for it in Hawaiian, but it's the word mutt. I'm a mutt, basically. It's a mixed breed of all of these different people groups: Moabites, Edomites (modern-day Jordan). That's going to be coming up, Lord willing, next week - chapter 15, Isaiah. The Jebusites, all the "ites" basically, all of these Arab people.

You get into Saudi Arabia. The reason why it's called modern-day Saudi Arabia because it went to that area known as the Arabian Peninsula. It was given to the House of Saud, Biden Saud, the Saudis, not the Wahhabis. Otherwise, it would have been called Wahhabi Arabia. These are Arab people. They are a mixture of all of these different people groups, tribes, nations, languages, tongues, etc. But when you talk about Egyptians, they are pure breeds. These people that are today called the Palestinians transliterated from Philistines are Arabs. There is no such thing as a Palestinian; they are extinct.

I grew up, all my life, my parents told me that I was. My dad was Egyptian, and my mom was Palestinian. As I was growing up, whenever something was on the news, and there was a lot of stuff on the news back then, about the Palestinian Liberation Organization and one Yasser Arafat. Do you know the only problem with Arafat? He was Egyptian. No, for real. You can find this. I hope it's not been scrubbed from the internet as everything else has. He was Egyptian; Arafat was an Egyptian. Anyway, I digress. I just wanted to let you know that they're not Palestinians. They're Arabs. So have a nice evening.

Verse 32, we'll finish the chapter. "What will they answer the messengers of the nation? That the Lord has founded Zion and the poor of his people shall take refuge in it."

I'd like to end the chapter and the Bible study with it this way because it ends with the question and answer concerning what God says to his people and all the nations when he's judged them. Simply put, "The foundation of God's judgment will stand, and the poor of God's people will take refuge in it." And I think that's a word for us tonight. That's the takeaway for us tonight. Take refuge in it. Rest in it; trust in it. God's judgment will stand. He said it; He will do it. Just wait - You'll see.

Why don't you stay, and we'll have the worship team come up? I'll tell you; it gets me through the day. It is what helps me sleep at night when I hit my head on that pillow, just knowing that one day soon and very soon, God is going to settle all of this. He will have the final word on all of this. And I can't wait. I cannot wait. It's coming.

Okay, this is the last thing. I want to say to those perpetrators of this unspeakable evil upon mankind that we are witnessing today in the world and its evil. And it's satanic, and it's demonic. I want to say to them what God says about them. Do you know what God says about them? It's actually not what he says. It's what he does. Do you know what he does? He laughs! I wonder what kind of laugh? There are different kinds of laughs, right? No, there is, right? There's the courtesy laugh. There's the machine gun level—different kinds of laughs. I wonder what kind of laugh that's going to be. I want to be there to hear it. He laughs at them. You fools! You actually think you're going to be gods and live forever. Ha-ha... He laughs.

So, let's pray. Thank you, Lord. Lord, I thank you that we have chapters like this in our Bibles because it's a much-needed reminder of what's coming. And more importantly, who's coming – You! And when you do, you are going to reign in righteousness over all the earth, and you will judge all the nations of the earth. And as far as the enemy, this who deceived all the nations, you are going to cast him into the lake of fire and the demons with him for all eternity. And Lord, we can't wait. But we have to wait.

Thank you, Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen.