

Isaiah 26

May 31, 2023

Isaiah 26:1-4 NKJV

In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:
"We have a strong city; God will appoint salvation for
walls and bulwarks. [2] Open the gates, That the
righteous nation which keeps the truth may enter in.
[3] You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is
stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. [4] Trust in
the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is
everlasting strength.

Introduction

- ✿ *Imagine the largest choir you have ever heard sing*
 - ✿ *The volume*
 - ✿ *The beauty*
- ✿ *Now multiply that beyond a number you could not imagine*
 - ✿ *The sound/volume*
 - ✿ *The joy and beauty*

- ✦ *A reversal of fortune is revealed*
- ✦ *The redeemed are now in a lofty place*
- ✦ *The wicked are humbled and devoted to destruction*
- ✦ *The city will be secure with salvation! (Why?) Because the Savior is there!*
- ✦ *The city will enjoy perfect peace because the Prince of Peace rules*
- ✦ *Those who trust in Him enjoy that perfect peace*
- ✦ *We can trust Him because He is the Rock of our salvation (Immutability)*

Isaiah 26:5-6 NKJV

For He brings down those who dwell on high, The lofty city; He lays it low, He lays it low to the ground, He brings it down to the dust. [6] The foot shall tread it down- The feet of the poor And the steps of the needy."

- ✦ *The prideful will be humbled*
- ✦ *They trust in things other than God
(military might, government, man)*
- ✦ *They will be trampled by those they
formerly oppressed*

Isaiah 26:7-9 NKJV

The way of the just is uprightness; O Most Upright,
You weigh the path of the just. [8] Yes, in the way of
Your judgments, O LORD, we have waited for You;
The desire of our soul is for Your name And for the
remembrance of You. [9] With my soul I have desired
You in the night, Yes, by my spirit within me I will seek
You early; For when Your judgments are in the earth,
The inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

- ✦ *(V 7) The way of the just is uprightness*
 - ✦ *The life of faith (“the just shall live by faith”)*
 - ✦ *Anything not of faith is sin (Romans 14:23)*
- ✦ *(V 8) The righteous have waited with anticipation for these judgments (Revelation 6:10)*
- ✦ *(V 9) Traits of the righteous*
 - ✦ *Desire God day and night*
 - ✦ *Seek Him early*
 - ✦ *They long for His judgments (His word) because in them we learn righteousness*

Isaiah 26:10-11 NKJV

Let grace be shown to the wicked, Yet he will not learn righteousness; In the land of uprightness he will deal unjustly, And will not behold the majesty of the LORD. [11] LORD, when Your hand is lifted up, they will not see. But they will see and be ashamed For their envy of people; Yes, the fire of Your enemies shall devour them.

- ✿ *Many will not learn even though they are offered grace because they will not repent*
- ✿ *They will learn, then, through judgment*
- ✿ *Yet they are oblivious to the imminency of judgment until it happens (Think of the days of Noah)*

Isaiah 26:12-15 NKJV

LORD, You will establish peace for us, For You have also done all our works in us. [13] O LORD our God, masters besides You Have had dominion over us; But by You only we make mention of Your name. [14] They are dead, they will not live; They are deceased, they will not rise. Therefore You have punished and destroyed them, And made all their memory to perish. [15] You have increased the nation, O LORD, You have increased the nation; You are glorified; You have expanded all the borders of the land.

- ✦ *The LORD alone will do all of this!*
- ✦ *He is sovereign*
- ✦ *He is the author and captain of our salvation*
- ✦ *(V 14) The wicked oppressors are dead*
- ✦ *Their memory will be dead*
- ✦ *Jesus on the other hand is eternal!*
- ✦ *(V 15) The kingdom of Jesus will be established and expanded*

Isaiah 26:16-18 NKJV

LORD, in trouble they have visited You, They poured out a prayer when Your chastening was upon them. [17] As a woman with child Is in pain and cries out in her pangs, When she draws near the time of her delivery, So have we been in Your sight, O LORD. [18] We have been with child, we have been in pain; We have, as it were, brought forth wind; We have not accomplished any deliverance in the earth, Nor have the inhabitants of the world fallen.

- ✿ *God's people were oppressed when God visited them with judgment*
- ✿ *They will not have an easy time*
- ✿ *They're strength will be gone to the point that they can barely whisper a prayer*
- ✿ *They will be like a woman travailing in childbirth*

Isaiah 26:19-21 NKJV

Your dead shall live; Together with my dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; For your dew is like the dew of herbs, And the earth shall cast out the dead. [20] Come, my people, enter your chambers, And shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, Until the indignation is past. [21] For behold, the LORD comes out of His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; The earth will also disclose her blood, And will no more cover her slain.

- ✦ *(V 19) The righteous dead will shout for joy when their bodies are resurrected (rise up from the dust)*
- ✦ *(Vv 20, 21) God warns the righteous here on earth to shelter in place when Jesus returns in judgment upon the wicked*