

The Book of Isaiah

Chapters 35

The Joy and Rejoice of Jerusalem

In the previous chapter of Isaiah, we had details concerning the destruction of the land as the Lord ascends to Jerusalem, events taking place in the Tribulation period. In this chapter Isaiah moves to events surrounding the establishment of the His kingdom.

The Healing of the Land (1-2): In juxtaposition to the utter destruction of Edom and Babylon and other places of the earth comes the rebirth of the land of Israel. For the “desert shall blossom as a rose” (vs.1). It shall “rejoice even with joy and singing” (vs. 2).

This is dealing with the conversion of the Kingdom landscape. Such changes will be necessary give the great upheaval that the land will experience at the second advent. It according to our Lord will be a “regeneration” (see Matt. 19:28) Such changes that will transpire are as follows:

1. The dead sea will be revived (Zech. 14:8-9 cf. Ezek. 47:1-12 cf. Rev. 22:1, 17)
2. The baren landscape shall blossom (Isaiah 60:13 cf. 55:12-13 cf. 41:18-20)
3. There shall be no violence, hurt or pain (Isa. 11:9 cf. 65:25)

The glory of Lebanon: (cf. Isaiah 60) Scripture includes Lebanon as being within the Promised Land. Moses and Joshua both mention Lebanon when talking about the Promised Land and its boundaries (**Deuteronomy 1:7; 3:25; Joshua 1:4**). This correlates with Deuteronomy 11:24, which states, “Every place where you set your foot will be yours: Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the Euphrates River to the Mediterranean Sea.”

Later, when Joshua led the conquests to take parts of the Promised Land, the valley of Lebanon was included as one of the regions that was taken (Joshua 12:7).

The glory or ornament of Lebanon was its cedars. Lebanon with its famed forests and beautiful mountain range, Lebanon was a source of valuable lumber for the Israelites.

The cedar tree of Lebanon, which is featured on the modern flag of Lebanon, was prized because of its high-quality, fragrant timber. Solomon used cedar trees from Lebanon in the construction of the temple, as well as in the building of his palace, which was called “the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon” (1 Kings 5:5-6; 7:1-3). To collect the massive amount of lumber needed for the temple and palace, 30,000 Israelite men were conscripted and sent to Lebanon for one month at a time (1 Kings 5:13-14). Hiram, king of Tyre, had his workers cut the trees, haul the logs to the sea, and float them to a place where Solomon’s men could collect them (1 Kings 5:8-9).



The excellency of Carmel and Sharon: Carmel was symbolic of beauty, as Lebanon was of majesty, and as Sharon was of fertility. These all reside within the land promised to Abraham and as such will be converted upon the establishment of the kingdom.

The Healing of the People (3-7): When our Lord returns for His people He will heal them physically of their infirmities. The precursor to this was at our Lord’s first advent. The miraculous signs of healing our Lord did in healing the blind, deaf and dumb was testament to the fact that He was the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. When John the Baptist questioned the authenticity of Jesus as the Messiah Jesus respond to those whom John sent, “Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.” (Lu 7:22 cf. Mt 11:4-5) quoting from Isaiah 35! (See John 5:36; 14:11; Acts 2:22). Thus, by the hand of Jesus and later by His disciples those in the land experienced the world to come, the foretaste of the coming Millennium (See Heb. 6:5 cf. Hebrew 2:3-5).

The Highway for the Redeemed (8-10): Part of the establishment of the kingdom is the regathering of the righteous from among the nations. The highway shall be called, "The way of holiness" (vs.8). Jeremiah prophesied of this time saying, "Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock. For the LORD hath redeemed Jacob and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. Therefore, they shall come and sing in the height of Zion and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all." (Jer. 31:10-12 cf. Isaiah 62:7-12, 51:11; Revelation 7:17).