

The Book of Isaiah

Chapter Two

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD. (Isaiah 2:1-5)

The City of Righteousness, the Faithful City (1-5): The term “last days” in prophecy is often referring to the later days of God’s prophetic calendar¹, the tribulation period, the return of Christ and the establishment of the Kingdom, including kingdom details. Other verbiage such as “day of the Lord”, “the Lord’s Day” and the like refer to this time as well.

The term “last days” or “latter days” is not however always a reference to such times so the context would have to bear this out. One would also have to consider the dispensational aspect of scripture. For instance, the Apostle Paul when dealing with the “last days” in 2 Timothy 3:1 is not dealing with the “last days” of God’s prophetic calendar but the last days of the Church, the Body of Christ.

Isaiah is given details of the “last days” of God’s prophetic calendar, the hope of Israel.

(2) It has long been prophesied that the nation of Israel would be head of all the nations. The center of worship and authority would flow to the rest of the Gentile nations from Jerusalem. (See Deut. 28:13, 44 cf. Isaiah 60)

¹ The prophetic calendar is given throughout Daniel specifically Daniel image in chapter 2. Daniel’s image lays out the Gentile nations that will rule until the Lord’s Kingdom is established. Thus, it is a prophetic calendar that consummates with the return of the Lord and the establishment of His kingdom.

Isaiah is using prophetic terminology here. Kingdoms in the scriptures are often referred to as mountains². The idea being and high ruling, unmovable authority. Daniel when describing the Lord's Kingdom sees a rock cut without hands (not established by men) become a great mountain and filled the whole earth: **"Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."** (Daniel 2:35). Daniel goes on and gives the interpretation of this vision saying, **"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."** (Daniel 2:44)

The prophet Micha was contemporary with the prophet Isaiah mimics the prophet: **"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."** (Micah 4:1-3)

(2-3) Once the Lord establishes His kingdom all nations will be subservient to His rule and authority. His righteous rule will be the draw of the nations to come and hear the law of the Lord., "all nations shall flow unto it". (See Zechariah 8:20-23 cf. Isaiah 60).

(4) The nations of the world will be under the leadership of Jesus Christ and His sole authority. It will be a Theocratic Kingdom. He will judge the nations, for His is the Judge of all the earth. This judgment for the nations will be through His judges as was communicated in chapter 1:26. (Psalm 2:9; Rev. 2:27; Rev. 19:15-16).

According to Ecclesiastes there is time and season for everything. The Kingdom will be a time for peace and not war for they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore (4). However, this time of peace was brought in by a time of war and

² It must not be ruled out however that given the changes of the geographical landscape that Jerusalem literally might be upon the lofty of mountains during the kingdom.

maintained by a firm rod of rulership (Rev. 12:5). The establishment of the kingdom was brought in by the Man of war, Jesus Christ in which He fought against the Gentile nations, the armies of the antichrist and all those who opposed and suppressed God's people: **"Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about."** (Joel 3:9-12)

It must be stated here that while we are to pray that we might live "quiet and peaceable" lives (2 Tim. 2:2), mankind will not know true peace without the Prince of Peace. The 9-foot-tall bronze statue entitled "swords into pruninghooks" donated by the USSR back in 1959 sitting on the grounds of the United Nations is a vivid reminder of the desire for peace. Of course mankind wants peace without the Prince of Peace.

(5) Once our Lord's Kingdom is established all the house of Jacob, the 12 tribes of Israel will be gathered in the land long promised them. There, the light of all things, light of knowledge, light of morals, light of the Law and the light of salvation will emanate from Christ to the Tribes of Israel unto the rest of the world.

Therefore, thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and are soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers. Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither is there any end of their chariots: Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made: And the mean man boweth down, and the great man humbleth himself: therefore forgive them not. (Isaiah 2:6-9)

Wealthy, Idolatrous, Apostate Nation (6-9): The people of Israel are idolatrous people influenced by the surrounding heathen nations. In the east Syrians, Chaldeans and in the west, the Philistines (Isaiah 9:12). These nations who were infamous for those practices have influenced God's people. Israel delighted in their company, and conversation, making leagues, and friendships, and marriages with them.

(7) **“Neither is there any end of their treasures”**; they have heaped up riches without restraint, (which was forbidden even for the king [Deut. 17:17](#)) they were never satisfied, but still greedily pursuing after more and more wealth, making this their chief business and joy. Their land also is full of horses, which even their king was forbidden to multiply, ([Deut. 17:16](#)). The reason for not having a multitude of horses was so they would trust in the Lord, and not in their own strength (Psalm 20:7).

(8-9) It would be enough for the people to be full of idol worship in their own homes but when it is in the very house of God, put on display by the priesthood this is a very serious matter. The prophet Ezekiel brings this out as he is shown all the abominations within the temple area (See Ezekiel 8). The sentence against the nation is **“therefore forgive them not”** i.e., the judgment against the nation is set, the die is cast. The judgment of the nation of Israel is officially a prophetic event, an event that is completed at the end of Daniels 70th week.

Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low: And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up, And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall, And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures. And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. (Isaiah 2:10-18)

The Humbling of the Earth (10-18): The general scope of the passage is that the pride and haughtiness of mankind will be brought low when the Lord comes to establish His kingdom, for the Lord alone will be exalted in that day (11).

(10) As I have stated in the introduction, Isaiah when dealing with prophecy continually cycle through the “Last Days” of prophetic events, the Day of the Lord. This is the case in this chapter (compare vs. 10 cf. vs. 19 cf. vs. 21).

When the Lord returns to judge the earth it is a day of trouble, a day of climatic events in both heaven and earth: **“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves**

roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory". (Luke 21:25-27)

Look at Isaiah 24:17-23.

The events surrounding the return of the Lord causes the small and great to flee and run for cover, even seeking death rather than endure such events: **"And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"** (Revelation 6:13-17)

(11-12, 17-18) All the earth will be humbled upon the return of the Lord. Every knee shall bow in the day the Lord returns and establishes His Kingdom (Isa. 45:23; Rom. 14:11; Phil. 2:10).

(13-16) All creation will be humbled in "that day". Isaiah is speaking both literally and figuratively here. I do believe the geographic landscape will be changed when the Lord arises to shake terrible the earth. It is also true historically that the Lord was upon the cedars of Lebanon when Sennacherib with chariots came up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and cut down the tall cedars thereof, and the choice fir trees thereof ([Isa 37:24](#)). The "oaks of Bashan" are mentioned also by Ezekiel ([Eze 27:6](#)) and by Zechariah. ([Zec 11:2](#)) It is quite likely that the Assyrians cut timber in Bashan, as they did in Lebanon.

However, Isaiah is also speaking figuratively. When Ezekiel speaks a riddle, a parable unto the house of Israel, he tells how a great eagle came to Lebanon and took of the highest branch of the cedar (Ezek. 17:3). Ezekiel when giving the interpretation of his parable says the cedar is Jerusalem and its kingly line are the branches (Ezek. 17:12). Men are often compared to trees in Scripture, ([Ps 1:3](#); [Jer. 17:8](#); [Job 8:16-17](#)) and "cedars of Lebanon" especially are symbols of the great and proud ones. ([Eze 31:3](#)).

(13-16) All the nations defenses shall be brought down: The high tower and fenced wall and all the ships of Tarshish with their present pictures (merchandise).

And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of? (Isaiah 2:19-22)

The Lord's Day (19-22): The Lord will "arise" from His seated position at the Father's right hand to begin His day. It is a glorious day for the Father and the Son of God, for Jesus Christ is the rightful possessor of Heaven and Earth. The Devil does not have the title deed to the earth only the Lamb slain before the foundation of the earth is the rightful Heir (Rev. 5).

As is clear from Revelation the Lord begins to have "His day" from the heavenly realm; from which He begins to open the seals, vials, and bowl judgments prior to descending to the earth to deliver Israel and reclaim the earth back to God.

The issue of the Lord Arising to have His day is an important issue. When Stephen in Acts sees the Lord "standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7:55). It would have been at this time, historically that the Lord would have begin to have "His day". God however instead of wrath poured our grace and the Dispensation of the Grace of God.