

# ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

# "A Sneak Peak at the Last Chapter" Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta Devotion and Discussion Questions

**Key Texts: Isaiah 2:1-5;** *Is. 1:18, 21, 25-27; Micah 4:1-4; Joel 3; Psalm 48* 

When you're in the middle of a hard story, sometimes what you need most is a glimpse of the ending. That's exactly what God does for His people in Isaiah 2. In chapter 1, the condition of Judah and Jerusalem was bleak—empty religion, injustice, blood on their hands. God laid out charges against them like a courtroom arraignment. Yet even in judgment, He gave a promise: "Though your sins be like scarlet, they will be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18).

And then chapter 2 opens with a pause. Before going back into the painful reality, God lets His people peek at the end of the story. He shows them a vision of the last chapter—a world where His purposes are fulfilled, where His mountain is lifted high, where nations stream to His presence, and where war is no more. Today, as we read this passage, we're invited to lift our eyes beyond the brokenness of now and glimpse the assured hope of God's future.

## 1. GOD'S MOUNTAIN WILL BE EXALTED (Is. 2:2)

Isaiah says, "It will come to pass in the last days that the mountain of Adonai's House will be established as chief of the mountains and will be raised above the hills. All nations will flow to it" (Isaiah 2:2).

In the ancient world, mountains were seen as dwelling places of the gods. Isaiah paints a picture where the mountain of the Lord—Mount Zion—is exalted above every false claim to power. It's not about physical height; it's about God's supremacy over every rival. Zion, whose very name means "signpost," becomes the sign to the world: *Look here. Look to the Lord.* 

This means the story ends with God's glory lifted up above every other name. Every false idol, every human power structure, every rival kingdom will bow low as He alone is exalted. And notice this—nations don't have to be dragged there. They stream to Him like a river, willingly drawn by His presence. The place that once lay desolate, invaded by outsiders (Isaiah 1:7), will now be the place where nations joyfully come to worship.

### 2. GOD'S WORD WILL INSTRUCT THE NATIONS (Isaiah 2:3)

The people say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of Adonai, to the House of the God of Jacob! Then He will teach us His ways, and we will walk in His paths. For Torah will go forth from Zion and the word of Adonai from Jerusalem" (Isaiah 2:3). What was the problem in chapter 1? Israel had plenty of religious activity but no justice, no compassion, no reflection of God's heart. They had missed His ways. But in the last chapter, that will change. Nations will hunger to be taught by Him. They will long for His instruction—not out of duty, but out of desire.

This is the magnetic pull of God's Word. When we see His mountain lifted high, our response is, "Teach us. Show us Your ways." And from Zion, His instruction will flow—not just to one people, but to all peoples. Imagine a world where God's Torah—His instructions, His directions, His clarity, His truth—goes forth unhindered. Where people don't just hear His

Word with ears, but receive it in their innermost beings and then *walk* in it. That's the picture Isaiah gives. And we, who know the LORD get to taste it now when we submit to His Word and walk in His ways.

#### 3. GOD'S JUSTICE WILL BRING PEACE (Isaiah 2:4-5)

Isaiah continues: "He will judge between the nations and decide for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning knives. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4). God Himself will settle disputes. His justice will replace human politics, corruption, and violence. The weapons of war will be refashioned into tools of cultivation—swords into plows, spears into pruning knives. Instead of tearing down, people will be building up. Instead of learning strategies of war, they'll be learning the rhythms of peace.

This is more than a dream of peace treaties—it's Eden restored. Humanity working the land as it was meant to, free from the shadow of war. That's the last chapter Isaiah lets us glimpse. And then comes the invitation in verse 5: "Come, house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of Adonai." The future hope demands a present response. If this is where the story is heading, then start walking in His light now.

#### CONCLUSION

Isaiah 2 gives us a sneak peek at the last chapter so that we don't lose hope in the middle of the story. God's mountain will be exalted. His Word will instruct the nations. His justice will bring peace. That's where history is heading. But this isn't just about *someday in the distant future*. The invitation is for us now: "Come, let us walk in the light of Adonai." We don't have to wait for the end of the story to start living like it's true. We can walk in His light today, bringing glimpses of that last chapter into our present world.

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1. How does seeing "the last chapter" in Isaiah 2:1–5 give us hope for the present?
- 2. What does it mean for Zion to be a "signpost," and how does that shape how we live today?
- 3. Why is God's Word (Torah) central to the transformation of the nations in this vision?
- 4. How does Isaiah's picture of swords into plowshares challenge the way our world thinks about power and security?
- 5. What does it look like for you personally to "walk in the light of Adonai" today?

#### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

Abba, we thank You that You have given us a glimpse of the last chapter. When life feels heavy, remind us of the sure hope we have in You. Exalt Your name above every rival in our hearts. Teach us Your ways, that we may walk in Your paths. Transform us into people of peace, who live now in the light of Your coming kingdom. Through Yeshua our Messiah, the Prince of Peace, we pray.

In the name of Yeshua our Messiah, Amen.