



ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

Provoking God's People to Walk in Their Calling

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Isaiah 16:1-5; 14:32; 8:14-15; Ps 72:12-13; 2 Kings 3:4-5; Isaiah 9:6-7

Sometimes, the most powerful messages from God are tucked away in the places we rarely look—in passages we might skip because they seem obscure or hard to understand. Isaiah 16 is one of those hidden treasures. Right in the middle of prophecies against nations—Philistia, Moab, and others—God slips in a message about *His heart*, His longing for His people to reflect His character. It's not just a warning—it's a calling. In this passage, we see two groups: the *refugees of Moab*, running in desperation, and the *people of Judah*, who are meant to be a refuge but have forgotten what they're called to be. God steps in and essentially says, "Let Me remind you who you are. Let Me provoke you to walk in your calling."

Just like Judah, we can forget our purpose when we're surrounded by chaos or comfort. We can either be a refuge for the broken or a stumbling block. This message is a divine wake-up call to the Body of Messiah—to reflect God's love, truth, justice, and righteousness to a world on the run.

1. REFUGE IS FOUND IN THE ROCK—NOT IN HUMAN ALLIANCES

Before we even get to Isaiah 16, we hear the echo of Isaiah 14:32: "*For Adonai has founded Zion, and the afflicted of His people will find refuge in her.*" The Lord had just told His people not to make alliances with the Philistines or the Moabites. Why? Because refuge isn't found in political safety, social connections, or human power—it's found in the Rock Himself.

The Moabites were running from destruction, but they were running in the wrong direction. They ran toward Edom, hiding in Petra—literally "the rock." It looked secure, but it wasn't *the* Rock. And the Lord calls them back, saying, "*Send a lamb from the rock in the wilderness to the mountain of the daughter of Zion.*" In other words, "Turn from your self-made refuge and come to the place I have established."

How many times do we do the same? We run to careers, relationships, or comfort zones when God is saying, "Stop running from Me and run *to* Me." He is the Rock that never shifts, the refuge that never collapses. If we will humble ourselves, bring our offering, and come to Him, we'll find the safety our souls are desperate for.

2. GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO REFLECT HIS HEART

God doesn't just speak to Moab here—He speaks to Judah. He tells the refugees, "*Bring this message to My people.*" And what's the message? "*Give counsel. Execute justice. Cast your shadow like night at noonday. Hide the refugees. Do not betray the banished.*" What's happening here is remarkable. God writes a letter for the nations to bring to His people—a note that says, "Will you be who I've called you to be?" Judah was supposed to be a refuge, a people marked by God's character—love, truth, justice, and righteousness. But they'd become self-protective, using their peace as a privilege instead of a platform to help others.

God reminds them—and us—that His people are meant to be a shadow of relief in the heat of suffering, a shelter in the day of distress. The blessings we have aren't meant to be hoarded; they're meant to be shared. Just as He is our hiding place, He calls us to be a hiding place for others. To reflect His heart means we open our arms to the hurting, even when it's inconvenient, uncomfortable, or risky. When the world looks to us in desperation, what will they find? A

people reflecting God's mercy and justice—or a people more concerned with preserving their own peace?

3. THE THRONE OF LOVE AND TRUTH CALLS US TO ACTION

Isaiah 16:5 climaxes with this beautiful vision: *“A throne will be established in mercy, and One will sit on it in truth, in the tent of David—One who seeks justice and is eager for righteousness.”* This is no ordinary king. This is the Messiah. This is Yeshua. Everything God calls Judah to be, everything He calls us to reflect, is perfectly embodied in Yeshua. He is the King whose rule is built on love and truth, whose reign brings justice and righteousness to a broken world. He rescues the needy, has compassion on the poor, and saves the souls of the afflicted (Psalm 72:12–13).

So when God provokes His people to walk in their calling, He's pointing us toward His Son. The throne of David—now occupied by Messiah—is the model for our lives. Love that acts. Truth that endures. Justice that restores. Righteousness that reflects His glory.

The question is: Will we walk in that calling? Will we be the kind of people whose faith provokes others—especially those who are far from God—to turn toward Him? Will we be the kind of people that the lost and broken know they can run to and find refuge?

CONCLUSION

In this story, two invitations are being extended—one to Moab, and one to Judah. To Moab, the call is, “Humble yourself and run to the Lord.” To Judah, the call is, “Rise up and reflect the Lord.” Both require surrender. Moab had to lay down pride and self-reliance. Judah had to lay down indifference and self-preservation. And we face the same call today. Will we humble ourselves enough to run to Yeshua as our only refuge? And will we allow Him to so transform us that we become a living reflection of His mercy and truth? The Lord still provokes His people to walk in their calling—to awaken us from comfort and stir us toward compassion. He is looking for those who will build His kind of kingdom—a kingdom established in love, truth, justice, and righteousness.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why do people often run to the wrong “rock” for refuge, and what does true refuge in God look like?
2. What does it mean for God's people to “cast their shadow like night at noonday”?
3. How does Yeshua's throne—built on love, truth, justice, and righteousness—model what our lives should look like?
4. What would it look like for the Church today to truly be a refuge for the broken and oppressed?
5. In what ways is God provoking *you* personally to walk more fully in your calling?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba, we thank You that You are our refuge and strength, our Rock and our Redeemer. Forgive us for the times we've run to false securities instead of running to You. Forgive us for the times we've hoarded the peace and safety You've given us instead of sharing it with those who are hurting. Lord, provoke our hearts again. Awaken us to our calling as Your people—to be a reflection of Your love, Your truth, Your justice, and Your righteousness. Help us to be a safe place for the lost, a covering for the weary, and a light in the darkness. We surrender to Your throne, established in mercy and truth. Make us a people who walk in Your calling and reveal Your kingdom until You come.

In Yeshua's mighty name we pray, Amen.