



ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

"STOP TRUSTING IN NOTHINGNESS"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Isaiah 2:6-22; Deuteronomy 17:14-17

Isaiah chapter 2 gives us a sneak peek of the end — the last chapter — the hope we have and the certainty of what God intends. Isaiah starts with this incredible picture of the mountain of Adonai being lifted above every other mountain. In the ancient world, mountains were the “homes” of the gods — so when Isaiah says that the mountain of the Lord will be lifted above all the hills, it's a declaration: *Adonai alone will be exalted*.

But the chapter doesn't just stay in the ideal. It turns our gaze back to the *now* — to the present Jerusalem, to the reality of God's people in Isaiah's day (and in ours). The tragedy is that instead of trusting the Lord, the people have trusted in themselves, in their wealth, in their military, in their alliances, and in what their own fingers can make. They were full of silver, gold, chariots, and idols — full of everything but God.

This is the bane of humanity. We keep trusting in what will pass away rather than the One who never passes away. Isaiah gives us a warning and a call: **Stop trusting in mankind, whose breath is in his nose. Come, House of Jacob — let's walk in the light of Adonai!**

1. THE GOD WHO IS OVER ALL

Isaiah opens with hope — a picture of God's mountain lifted above all other hills. *“It will come to pass in the last days ... the mountain of Adonai's house will stand firm as head of the mountains ... all nations will flow to it”* (Isa. 2:2-3). The picture is of a world where God is exalted and His word goes forth bringing peace. Swords are turned into plowshares, spears into pruning knives, and no one studies war anymore.

This is not wishful thinking — it is a promise. It is what life will look like when God is fully acknowledged as King. Everything that sets itself up against Him will be brought low. Isaiah uses a refrain: *“For Adonai alone will be exalted in that day.”* Over all the mountains, over all the towers, over all the ships, over all human pride — the Lord is over all. The reminder is that we can either bow low now in worship or be brought low later in judgment. God's exaltation is certain. The question is whether we will walk in His light now, aligning with His ways, or wait until the shaking brings every high thing down.

2. THE PEOPLE WHO TRUST IN NOTHINGS

Isaiah then turns from the ideal to the real. Verse 6 says, *“For You have forsaken Your people ... for they are filled with soothsayers from the east ... and they clap hands with the children of foreigners.”* The people of God have found their fullness elsewhere. They have struck bargains with outsiders, filled themselves with what is “backward,” and sought light from the wrong source. Their land is full of silver and gold, horses and chariots, idols — but not full of God. Isaiah even uses a play on words: **instead of being full of Elohim (God), they are full of elim — “nothings.”** They worship the work of their own fingers.

The tragedy is that the very things they think will exalt them — their wealth, their military strength, their inventions — are actually degrading them. *“So humanity bows down as each*

one lowers himself" (v. 9). The more they try to lift themselves up, the more they actually bow down to what cannot save.

3. THE CALL TO STOP AND TRUST THE LORD

Isaiah ends with a blunt, urgent call: *"Stop trusting in mankind — in humanity — whose breath is in his nose. For what is he really worth?"* (v. 22). Stop regarding man. Stop putting your trust in what cannot stand in the day of shaking. Isaiah says there is coming a day when people will throw their idols to the rats and the bats because they finally realize: "This is nothing. This cannot save me." Everything that can be shaken will be shaken so that only what cannot be shaken may remain. The invitation of Isaiah is: "Don't wait until that day. Walk in the light of Adonai NOW - TODAY."

The only One who is trustworthy is the Lord. His Word will remain when everything else has fallen. The call is simple but urgent: stop trusting in what is passing away, and trust in the One who is forever.

CONCLUSION

Isaiah's vision is not meant to depress us but to wake us up. There is a coming day when God will set everything right, but we don't have to wait for that day to start walking in His light. We can choose today to stop trusting in our own strength, our wealth, our strategies, our idols — and start trusting in Him.

Where are you putting your trust? Is your hope tied to a person, a relationship, a job, a political outcome, a bank account, or a dream you made with your own hands? Lay it down and recommit to the LORD: "Lord, I trust You. I'm committed to not put my trust in man and to daily walk in Your light."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What are some "nothings" we are tempted to trust in today instead of the Lord?
2. Why do you think Isaiah begins with a picture of the future glory before addressing the present sin?
3. How does Isaiah's picture of God being "over all" challenge the things we try to build or rely on for security?
4. In what ways do we, like Israel, try to exalt ourselves but actually end up lowering ourselves?
5. What practical steps can we take this week to "walk in the light of Adonai"?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba, we confess that we are often full of everything but You — full of worry, full of striving, full of plans made with our own fingers. Today we stop. We stop regarding man and start regarding You. Help us to trust You above wealth, power, and human wisdom. Lift our eyes to see that You alone are over all. Teach us to walk in Your light now so that when the shaking comes, we will stand firm.

In the name of Yeshua our Messiah, Amen.