



# ShalomAZ Ministries

*In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption*

## **The Path Toward You, O LORD, for all who will Look and Follow"**

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### **Devotion and Discussion Questions**

**Key Texts (TLV): Isaiah 26:7-12; Is. 25:7-9; 26:1-6; Ps. 1; Psalm 118:15-17**

Isaiah sets us inside the tension of the “now and not yet”—the promise of the feast to come, the victory of God swallowing death forever, and the reality that, at the moment, we are still walking through a world marked by tears, reproach, and waiting. Isa 25:7–9 gives us this breathtaking declaration: *“He will swallow up the veil... He will swallow up death forever... Behold, this is our God! We waited for Him... and He saved us.”* The preserved are invited to the feast of the Preserver. The aged wine is poured out for those who have been patiently preserved by His hand. But even in that promise, we’re reminded that we live in the tension—assured of what is coming, but still walking by faith right here, right now.

Isa 26 brings that tension into focus: God has appointed salvation—Yeshua Himself—as our walls and ramparts. Our safety isn’t a city with high walls; it’s the God who holds us. *“You keep in perfect peace the one whose mind is stayed on You because he trusts in You”* (Isa 26:3). The Rock of Ages doesn’t shift, crumble, or erode. Every other rock eventually becomes dust beneath the feet of the afflicted, the small, the nobody. He alone is the Rock through the ages. So Isaiah now turns to the present journey: the actual path we walk. Not the feast to come, but the way toward Him now. And he declares that God Himself has made a level path for all who will look and follow.

### **1. HE MAKES THE PATH LEVEL (Isa 26:7)**

**“He Himself has made the way walkable.”** Isaiah begins with a profound truth: *“The way of the righteous is straight. Upright One, You make level the path of the righteous.”* The righteous path isn’t straight because we’re good at walking it. It’s straight because He is the Upright One. He is the Level One. He is the One who makes the path smooth—not by eliminating every difficulty, but by ensuring that the way toward Him is truly walkable. This isn’t a description of easy circumstances; it’s the voice of faith. Even when the journey feels steep and uneven, Isaiah reminds us that God Himself has lowered the mountains and lifted the valleys so that we can walk toward Him without fear.

The beauty of this passage is that the Lord removes the barriers we could never remove ourselves. We are not left wandering in confusion or clawing our way uphill with no direction. The path is straight and level because HE made it so. The invitation is not “Figure out how to get to Me,” but “Walk the way I have prepared for you.” Every place where you thought you couldn’t continue—He leveled that path. Every obstacle that once felt impossible—He already dealt with it. The path of righteousness exists because God desires us to reach Him, so He made the way possible. The path itself is not the goal; the goal is Him.

### **2. THE PATH IS ABOUT HIM, NOT ABOUT US (Isa 26:8-9)**

**“Your name and Your remembrance are the desire of our soul.”** Isaiah presses deeper: *“Yes, in the way of Your judgments, Adonai, we have waited for You. Your name and Your remembrance are the desire of our soul.”* The path is not an end in itself. The path is only meaningful because it leads us to **HIM**. Righteousness is not about moral performance; it is about relational pursuit. It is about craving God Himself. Isaiah describes a soul that longs in the darkness, a spirit that seeks God in the inner places of night and silence. This is not dry religion—this is the soul saying, “Lord, You—not blessing, not comfort, not clarity—YOU are what I crave.”

Isaiah says that when God’s “judgments”—His governance, His rulings, His kingdom way—are in the earth, then the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness. His ways are so unlike ours

that when we see them—when His will is done on earth as it is in heaven—it teaches us what righteousness *really* is. But humanity is slow to learn. Grace can be shown, kindness extended, favor poured out—yet the wicked may see it as weakness or approval. Isaiah recognizes the oddity of the human heart: many only wake up when comfort is removed. Yet even in that, God’s desire remains—to reveal Himself so clearly that the blind may finally see the hand that has always been lifted up to save.

### **3. THE PATH ENDS IN SHALOM (Isa 26:10–12)**

**“You will establish shalom for us, for all our works You have done for us.”** Isaiah concludes with a sobering contrast. Though grace is shown to the wicked, many still refuse to learn righteousness. They can live in the middle of uprightness and remain unmoved. They do not perceive *“the majesty of Adonai.”* But Isaiah sees something they do not see: God’s hand lifted high. And he prays, *“Let them see Your zeal for Your people.”* Let them finally recognize the God who has been reaching toward them all along. For those who harden themselves, pain awaits. But for those who walk the level path toward Him, a completely different future is promised.

That future is summed up in verse 12: *“Adonai, You will establish shalom for us, for all our works You have done for us.”* He governs in peace. He finishes what we could never finish. Every righteous work we have ever offered—He was the One who empowered it. Every victory we have ever experienced—He was the One who accomplished it. And the final outcome of walking His path is not fear, not uncertainty, not striving, but shalom. Wholeness. Rest. Restoration. The God who levels the path is the same God who secures our destination.

### **CONCLUSION**

Isaiah 26 invites us to look again at the whole story: God has made the path walkable. God has called us to Himself. God has given us a future feast where death is swallowed forever. And in the meantime, He is the Rock through the ages. He is faithful in the present just as He will be faithful in the future. So today the call is simple: stay on the path He prepared. Don’t cling to what’s crumbling. Don’t mistake delay for distance. His hand is lifted up. His zeal burns for His people.. Keep looking. Keep following. The path leads to Him.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What does it mean in your own life that God “levels the path of the righteous”? Where have you seen Him make a way you couldn’t make for yourself?
2. Isaiah says *“Your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul.”* What helps your heart stay in that posture of desire instead of drifting into routine?
3. Why do you think some people do not “learn righteousness,” even when God shows them kindness and favor?
4. Where have you personally struggled to perceive the “hand of Adonai lifted up”? What helps you see Him more clearly?
5. Isaiah ends by saying, *“You will establish shalom for us.”* How does knowing God finishes the work change the way you walk with Him today?

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

Adonai, Upright One, Level One—thank You for making a path we could never make on our own. Thank You for lowering every mountain and lifting every valley so that we could walk toward You. Today our souls crave You. Our spirits seek You. Teach us Your ways. Let us perceive Your hand lifted up on our behalf. Establish shalom in our hearts, in our homes, and in our path before us. And remind us that all our works—every righteous thing in us—You have done for us. We trust You, we look to You, and we follow You. In Yeshua’s name, amen.