

ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

"ALL YOU'VE LEANED ON.... GONE."

Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta

Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Isaiah 3:1-15; *Isaiah 2:5, 22; Lev. 19:9-10; Isaiah 1:16-18; Gal. 6:7-9*

Isaiah 3 opens with a sharp word from the Lord: "For behold, the Lord Adonai-Tzva'ot is about to remove from Jerusalem and from Judah every supply and every support—supply of bread and supply of water." (Isaiah 3:1, TLV). This isn't random. Chapter 2 has just called us to stop trusting in man, to stop regarding humanity whose breath is in his nostrils. And now God says, "Because you won't stop trusting in man, because you won't walk in My ways—look! I'm going to take away every single thing you've been leaning on."

This is a sobering message. It reminds us that God will not let His people continue to lean on false supports forever. He loves us too much to let us keep depending on idols—whether they are physical, emotional, cultural, political or personal. Sometimes His mercy is to strip away everything we've depended on so we can finally see that He alone is trustworthy.

1. GOD REMOVES THE SUPPORTS TO RECLAIM OUR DEPENDENCE

Isaiah lists all the things that will be removed: "mighty man and man of war, judge and prophet, fortune teller and elder, captain of fifty and man of rank, counselor, crafty magician and cunning charmer" (Isaiah 3:2–3). It's a total collapse of society's support system—military strength, political leadership, wise counselors, even spiritual guides (both true and false). Everything they were leaning on—gone. And that is exactly the point. God is showing that anything we trust more than Him is temporary, and He will shake it until it falls.

Today, the Lord is still removing false supports. He might expose the instability of an economy we trusted, shake a relationship we leaned on more than Him, or remove a job that had become our identity. These moments are not punishment—they are invitations. God is asking: "Will you trust Me as your source? Will you let Me be your bread and water?" This week, take time to name the things you tend to lean on, and intentionally surrender them in prayer, saying, "Lord, You are my support."

2. WHEN HUMAN LEADERSHIP FAILS, CHAOS FOLLOWS

Isaiah says: "I will set youths as their leaders; capricious ones will govern them" (Isaiah 3:4). It's a picture of immaturity, instability, and impulsiveness ruling the day. The result is predictable: "The people will oppress one another, each one his neighbor. The youth will be insolent to the elder, and the dishonorable to the honorable" (v.5). This is what happens when a nation chooses its own way instead of God's way. Leadership is no longer based on character but on appearance—"You have a cloak, you be our ruler" (v.6). The people just grab anyone who looks the part and say, "Lead us!" And even those who are asked to lead say, "I don't want it. I can't fix this mess. There's no bread, no cloak, no healing left in me" (v.7).

We live in a culture that often values charisma over character, image over integrity. As followers of Yeshua, we are called to be different. Rather than being swept up by the latest personality or movement, we must ask: "Does this path honor God's ways?" And in our own spheres of influence—our homes, workplaces, ministries—we must cultivate character that reflects God's heart so that when people look for leadership, they see the wisdom of heaven in us.

3. GOD WILL STAND UP AND JUDGE JUSTLY

But God does not leave the chaos unchecked. Verse 13 says: "Adonai arises to contend the case—He stands to judge the peoples." God is not passive. He sees the oppression. He hears the cries of the afflicted. And He says to the leaders: "You have devoured the vineyard! The plunder of the poor is in your houses. What do you mean by crushing My people and grinding the face of the poor?" (vv.14–15).

The Lord stands up to defend His vineyard. He stands up to defend the oppressed. He stands up to deal with the shepherds who have used the sheep for their own gain. This is both a warning and a comfort. God calls us to live with integrity, to treat others with justice and compassion—especially the poor, the vulnerable, and the powerless. How we handle money, power, and influence matters. This week, ask yourself: "Am I using what God has entrusted to me to bless others, or am I consuming it all for myself?" Choose one way to actively care for someone in need—give generously, advocate for the voiceless, or simply listen to someone who feels forgotten.

CONCLUSION

The message of Isaiah 3 is clear: stop putting your trust in what is shakable. Stop trusting in man. Stop clinging to idols that cannot save. Stop looking to money, powerful people, nations, political movements or anything beside the LORD to hold you up. God is calling His people back to Himself. He is saying, "Lean on Me. Trust Me. I am your bread, I am your water, I am your supply."

Today, the Lord may be removing some of the things you've leaned on. Maybe He's allowing some things in your life to shake, so that you'll see He alone is unshakable. This is your moment to surrender. Lay down the false supports, the idols, the misplaced trusts. Cry out to Him: "Lord, You are my supply, You are my source. I trust You."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What are some "supports" in your life that you may be trusting more than God right now?
- 2. How does God's removal of false supports demonstrate His mercy rather than just His judgment?
- 3. In what ways have you seen chaos or confusion result from ungodly or immature leadership—whether personally, nationally, or spiritually?
- 4. How does verse 10 (the word of hope to the righteous) encourage you in the middle of societal shaking?
- 5. What practical steps can you take this week to depend more fully on the Lord rather than on human strength or systems?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba, we confess that too often we lean on things that cannot hold us. Forgive us for trusting in man, for looking to human solutions rather than seeking Your face. Lord, remove every false support that keeps us from clinging to You alone. Teach us to walk in Your ways, to trust Your justice, to love what You love. Strengthen the righteous and bring hope in the midst of shaking. Raise up leaders who reflect Your heart and guide us in paths of righteousness. We choose today to lean on You as our only true supply and support.

In the name of Yeshua our Messiah, Amen.