## THE MESSIANIC HIGHWAY THROUGH THE DESERT

ISAIAH'S GRAPHIC DESCRIPTIONS AND ABILITY TO TIE IN MANY PREVIOUS PROPHECIES AND EXPOUND ON THEM IS INCREDIBLE. THERE ARE SO MANY PASSAGES TALKING ABOUT THE MESSIAH THAT IT HAS LED SOME TO NICKNAME IT "THE FIFTH GOSPEL."

## I. A HIGHWAY THROUGH THE DESERT

- A. Psalm 68:9-10
  - the imagery is of the Lord pouring out rain on His people in the desert in their poverty, using both poetic and literal language. The rain reflects the action of God blessing the poor and causing the dry things to sprout and blossom in the desert
- B. Isaiah 35:1-2
  - 1) the figurative language points to very literal realities
  - 2) creation itself reflects the emotional state of God's people as they are being set free
  - 3) one minute they were prisoners and the next they will be shouting with joy
  - 4) it begins with the redeemed seeing the glory of the Lord with their eyes
  - 5) in the same way that Israel's chastisements were literal they were literally sent into exile, etc and Jesus' ascension into heaven was literal, all these poetic descriptions concerning His return are literal
- C. Isaiah 35:3-4
  - 1) many in the church pretend that they are victorious when in reality, they might be spiritually, emotionally, and/or physically exhausted
  - 2) across the board, Christians filled with the Holy Spirit, feel the burden of this age
  - 3) the day is coming when the exhausted, weak, and feeble will be filled with strength
  - 4) one of the most consistently repeated themes throughout all of these prophesies is that the righteous are waiting for deliverance and His justice is coming
- D. Isaiah 35: 5-7
  - 1) on that day, EVERYONE in Christ gets healed. In present day, the miracle is not always released and not all are healed, but we are called to wait for the Day when everyone will receive His healing
  - 2) in Acts 3:21, Peter talks about this period of the restoration of all things: of Eden, the kingdom of David, the cosmos, our bodies, etc.
  - 3) in Romans 8:18–25, Paul teaches that we will go from being in slavery to corruption and sin and the curse to the freedom of the glory of the children of God
- E. Isaiah 35:8-10
  - 1) holiness is not something to be taken lightly. No one will just accidentally wander onto that highway; only the holy will be there



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- a) to be clear, it is only by the blood of Jesus that we are saved

   we cannot earn it ourselves but we have to partner with
   His grace faithfully and not reject it in our lives
   (Hebrews 10:26)
- 2) sighing, groaning, depression, and oppression WILL come to an end. Psalm 30:5 can apply to seasons of our life but is ultimately speaking of the Day of the Lord. The darkness of this current age will end
- 3) if you are in Christ, this is your destiny (Colossians 3:4). The redeemed will be with Him in the royal procession on the Highway of Holiness



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