

**Promises Kept  
No Doubt About It  
Isaiah 62**

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When we studied chapter 60, we were privileged to encounter promises from YAHWEH that were so sure in the mind of Isaiah, that he spoke of them in the past tense. Why is that?

Because we are going to see what he saw here in chapter 62.

We are going to see the promises of Isaiah 60:1 – 9 fulfilled, just like Isaiah did.

Isaiah 60:1–9

“Arise, shine; for your light has come, And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth And deep darkness the peoples; But the LORD will rise upon you And His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. Raise your eyes all around and see; They all gather together, they come to you. Your sons will come from afar, And your daughters will be carried on the hip. Then you will see and be radiant, And your heart will thrill and rejoice; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, The wealth of the nations will come to you. A multitude of camels will cover you, The young camels of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba will come; They will bring gold and frankincense, And proclaim good news of the praises of the LORD. All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered to you, The rams of Nebaioth will serve you; They will go up on My altar with acceptance, And I will glorify My glorious house. Who are these who fly like a cloud And like the doves to their windows? Certainly the coastlands will wait for Me; And the ships of Tarshish will come first, To bring your sons from afar, Their silver and their gold with them, For the name of the LORD your God, And for the Holy One of Israel because He has glorified you.” (NASB 2020)

This promise was then followed up on in Isaiah 61. “For as the earth produces its sprouts, And as a garden causes the things sown in it to spring up, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise To spring up before all the nations.” (Isaiah 61:11, NASB 2020)

Great things had been promised in the previous discourse. Will all be fulfilled? The Anointed of God declares most decidedly, appealing to His love to Jerusalem as the surest guarantee, that He will not rest till Jerusalem is exalted to the highest pitch of glory... (Lange, et al. 2008, 664)

Isaiah 62:1–3

“For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, And for Jerusalem’s sake I will not keep quiet, Until her righteousness goes forth like brightness, And her salvation like a torch that is burning. The nations will see your righteousness, And all kings your glory; And you will be called by a new name Which the mouth of the LORD will designate. You will also be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, And a royal headband in the hand of your God.” (NASB 2020)

The Messiah is still speaking as we come to chapter 62. Extravagant promises have been made. Promises that Isaiah knows will be fulfilled. Now the Messiah speaks up about this as well and draws a picture for us.

Messiah is telling us, as it pertains to His people, there are two things He will not do. The English translation is rather limiting.

הִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה (eheseh) - be silent, inactive, still. (Brown, Driver and Briggs 1977, 364)

אִשְׁקוּט (esqot) - have peace, quiet, be at peace...keep quiet...undertake nothing, be idle. (Holladay and Köhler 2000, 382)

For Zion’s sake, the city of David, the place that YAHWEH said was His and where He would dwell (Zechariah 1:14, 2:10, 8:3), the Messiah will not be still or inactive. This is a promise of action on behalf of Jerusalem. This is a promise that we see fulfilled in Zechariah 14:3 – 5 and Revelation 19:11 – 21. “He will not rest until He has accomplished what is here described. The second verb is stronger than the first. Not only will God not be still, He will not even rest.” He will not be at peace until He has achieved all He said He would do. (Young 1972, 467)

Messiah is going to maintain His action until He sees those promises fulfilled. When the righteousness and salvation of Jerusalem shines forth, then the work that was promised will be fulfilled. He will not stop until that happens. When Israel is righteous, then they are saved, and when they are saved, they are righteous.

This is wholly dependent on the work of the Suffering Servant as we have studied in Isaiah 52 and 53.

This will be the day that righteousness, victory, and vindication will be evident as the brightness of the sun or a burning torch. These figures of speech (the rising sun and a bright light in 62:1) were earlier connected with the coming of the glory of the Lord (60:1–2, 19). A burning torch was also connected with God’s glorious presence in earlier traditions (Gen 15:17; Exod 3:2; Deut 4:11). Thus these figures of speech could refer to the coming of God who brings justice and salvation, or it could simply be comparing the brightness of God’s day of salvation to the brightness of the new sunlight in the morning, which thoroughly removes all darkness. (Smith 2009, 646-647)

The day being discussed though is obviously the same day that we have looked at before, the day when His people ask for their Messiah to save them, and He does (Zechariah 13:9). The beast has been destroyed as have all his armies (Zechariah 14:12 – 13). The Lord has fulfilled the final role alluded to earlier in Isaiah 61:1 – 3.

Those who are now seeing the great reset take place in real time are experiencing, personally, what it is that Isaiah has seen and was so real to him he spoke in the past tense. Now, Israel is becoming all that God has called them to be. They are now becoming light to the nations pointing the nations to Him.

Isaiah 62:2

“The nations will see your righteousness, And all kings your glory; And you will be called by a new name Which the mouth of the LORD will designate.” (NASB 2020)

The one thing that will be obvious to all observers at the end of the age is that when Jesus Christ returns and saves His people, He has returned specifically for them.

The place that He first goes to (Isaiah 34:6), the path He traverses to Jerusalem (Isaiah 63:1 – 6, Micah 1:3 – 4) and where it is He and His armies land (Zechariah 14:3 – 5, Revelation 19:11 – 21) are all specifically pointing to Israel.

The God of the universe came back for Israel. They asked Him and He shows up and in power as the avenger of blood (Ezekiel 38, Zechariah 14:12 – 15). That alone is a shock for the nations (Isaiah 2:19, Revelation 6:12 – 17).

The nations have all seen this, live on Beast Network News. Prior to their rescue, the armies of the world were intent on killing all the Jews as well as followers of Jesus Christ worldwide. The armies of the world believed that they were more powerful than God.

Revelation 13:4

“They worshiped the dragon for giving the beast such power, and they also worshiped the beast. “Who is as great as the beast?” they exclaimed. “Who is able to fight against him?”” (NLT)

God is. Goodbye. Now, they are all gone.

Messiah appears. Beast Corp loses and does so quite graphically (Revelation 19:20 – 21) with the whole world watching. International opinion polls shift suddenly and permanently.

“...when God vindicates/rescues Jerusalem, that act will not only reflect God’s glory but will also glorify the city. All the nations and their leaders will see that Jerusalem is great.” (Ogden and Sterk 2011, 1739)

We read that the city is going to have a new name, but we are not told that name here. This is not the first time we have seen a new name being referred to post salvation, nor will it be the last. Abram became Abraham, Sarai became Sarah, Jacob became Israel.

The new name replaces the old in order to signify the bestowal of powers not hitherto possessed. In this case the new name is equivalent to the experience of regeneration. (Elwell and Beitzel 1988, 1523)

A new name in the scriptures also may indicate not only salvation, but a new character connected with that, like Simon becoming Peter or Saul becoming Paul.

In Daniel we see new names given by others in an attempt to obtain loyalty from the recipient.

Here, we do not know the name as the author, YAHWEH, has not said what it is yet. We will get a comparison of the old versus the new very soon. That is coming up.

This idea of a new name also extends to you and me as well. When we get to heaven and are in our glorified bodies, we will receive a new name that matches who we will then be (Revelation 2:17, 3:12).

Revelation 2:17

“The one who has an ear had better hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers, I will give him some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and **on that stone will be written a new name that no one can understand except the one who receives it.**” (NET)

Isaiah 62:3

“You will also be a crown of beauty **in the hand of the LORD**, And a royal headband **in the hand of your God.**” (NASB 2020)

We tend to think of how precious the Lord is to us and forget a simple truth. “For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.” (John 3:16, GNB). We are incredibly precious to Him.

Hebrews 12:2

“looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” (ESV)

How precious will His people be to Him? “The people of God, Zion/Jerusalem, are in his hand, i.e., in his care and under his control. But they are not in his hand as slaves or lumps of wood or stone. They are there as a priceless possession, a thing of delight, honor, and beauty. God is not restoring them to himself grudgingly or mechanically; he does so as one would a piece of precious jewelry. Zion does not need to fear that God will forget his promises concerning her; she is his dearest possession (cf. Prov. 12:4a).” (Oswalt 1998, 580)

This also is a reflection of the change in status for Jerusalem. The city has gone from a being a heavy stone causing concern and dismay to the nations (Zechariah 12:3) to now, they are the royal city of King Messiah. Note only that, but God Himself now resides in Jerusalem. Everyone who is His is precious to Him. We are the reason He went to the cross.

God will direct or use Jerusalem in its new status as a royal city. (Ogden and Sterk 2011, 1740)

Isaiah 62:4

“It will no longer be said to you, “Forsaken,” Nor to your land will it any longer be said, “Desolate”; But you will be called, “My delight is in her,” And your land, “Married”; For the LORD delights in you, And to Him your land will be married.” (NASB 2020)

Now we are talking about names for Jerusalem and the people there, in this verse we get four names for the city.

- Forsaken (people) – Azubah
- Desolate (place) – Shemamah
- My delight is in her (people) – Hephzibah
- Married (place) – Beulah

Two of these are real names by the way.

- Azubah -
  - 1 Kings 22:42 “Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.” (ESV)
  - 1 Chronicles 2:18 “Caleb the son of Hezron fathered children by his wife Azubah, and by Jerioth; and these were her sons: Jeshar, Shobab, and Ardon.” (ESV)
- Shemamah – shows up in the OT as the word used for desolation.
- Hephzibah –
  - 2 Kings 21:1 “Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Hephzibah.” (ESV)
- Beulah – married.

Hephzibah replaces Azubah. The people have changed.

Beulah replaces Shemamah. The environment has changed.

Isaiah 62:5

“For as a young man marries a virgin, So your sons will marry you; And as the groom rejoices over the bride, So your God will rejoice over you.” (NASB 2020)

The two halves of the verse are, respectively, the wedding and the honeymoon; the marriage covenant, which includes the bridegroom’s promise to ‘love and to cherish’, and the entry upon the delights of married life in which the bridegroom rejoices in his bride. So Zion will be the object of the cherishing love of her own sons, and the Lord will enjoy honeymoon-delight with those whom the Anointed One has saved and made right with him. (Motyer 1996, 506)

The people of Zion are now wholly devoted to the future of what it is the Lord has in store for them. As promised, they are now salt and light to the nations and they are fully embracing that. They have married that idea and allowed it to become their identity.

As they now go about serving the Lord and achieving for him what He always envisioned for them, He rejoices in them. They are indeed now the crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord. The value He saw in them is visible and on display to the nations.

Isaiah 62:6–7

“On your walls, Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; All day and all night they will never keep silent. You who profess the LORD, take no rest for yourselves; And give Him no rest until He establishes And makes Jerusalem an object of praise on the earth.” (NASB 2020)

A transformation has taken place within Jerusalem. The land is no longer the same and the people in it are no longer the same either.

This is now a people who are priests of the King, they are now a people who publicly display to the world what it is God has done for them.

The walls have been restored and the gates are open to the nations of the world. Inside the gates is the throne of King Jesus and the presence of YAHWEH in the Temple. Where YAHWEH is, is also where the Divine Council is.

The membership of the Council has shifted and now consists of the Church (Revelation 4). The former members of that council though are now also residents of Jerusalem since that is where YAHWEH is. Staff members of the King are there as well as staff members of YAHWEH’s kingdom...Divine Beings.

As we look at verse 6, we now find ourselves wondering just who is it that is now on the walls of Jerusalem? Notice the duties. “...All day and all night they will never keep silent...” (Isaiah 62:6b, NASB 2020)

In the book of Revelation, we are introduced to a group of Divine Beings who have, as part of their job description, the requirement to continually give glory to YAHWEH.

The fact they are never silent gives us a hint as to who they are here in Isaiah 62.

Revelation 4:5–8

“From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like

an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, **and day and night they never cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”** (ESV)

These are faithful Divine officials who have always had duties connected with the throne room of the Universe. This throne room is now **inside the walls of Jerusalem**.

YAHWEH is dwelling with His people in Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 43:1–9

“Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing east. And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the east. And the sound of his coming was like the sound of many waters, and the earth shone with his glory. And the vision I saw was just like the vision that I had seen when he came to destroy the city, and just like the vision that I had seen by the Chebar canal. And I fell on my face. **As the glory of the LORD entered the temple by the gate facing east, the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.** While the man was standing beside me, I heard one speaking to me out of the temple, and he said to me, **“Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the people of Israel forever.** And the house of Israel shall no more defile my holy name, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoring and by the dead bodies of their kings at their high places, by setting their threshold by my threshold and their doorposts beside my doorposts, with only a wall between me and them. They have defiled my holy name by their abominations that they have committed, so I have consumed them in my anger. Now let them put away their whoring and the dead bodies of their kings far from me, and I will dwell in their midst forever.” (ESV)

That throne room is now on earth at the Temple in Jerusalem (Ezekiel 43). The Lord has appointed watchers, divine beings, to stand on the walls. These are “angelic ministers whose duty it is to watch over the welfare of Jerusalem and who are charged to keep constantly before the Lord His resolution about her...” (Wade 1911, 392)

“Here then God, the heavenly king, is reassuring his people with imagery familiar to them that he will not forget what he has promised to do. He has gone so far as to appoint “watchers” whose sole task is not to allow him to forget how precious Jerusalem (walls is a synecdoche) is to him and what he has promised to do for it (cf. Zech. 1:12; also Isa. 43:26). One might ask why God would need to be reminded of his promises, but that is to read the imagery in an overly literal way. God is asserting that he will never forget what he has promised, no matter how dark the days may become between the hour the prophet speaks it and the day of its fulfillment.” (Oswalt 1998, 584-585)

They are announcing that which they have always announced from the beginning of time...the holiness and glory of God.

Isaiah 62:6b–7

“...You who profess the LORD, take no rest for yourselves; And give Him no rest until He establishes And makes Jerusalem an object of praise on the earth.” (NASB 2020)

Part of what it is they are charged to say is to continually remind those in Jerusalem that He will not rest until Jerusalem is an object of praise to the world. Technically, they are making continual intercessory prayer on behalf of the nation to YAHWEH. This is also pointing to the remnant and the need for them to also become watchmen making the same intercessory prayer on behalf of the nation.

The day that is approaching, from the view we see in Isaiah 62, is very near and there is now the realization that when “Jerusalem is made the praise of the earth, something the whole world gives praise to the Lord for, because in saving Zion the world has been saved.” (Motyer 1996, 507)

Remember earlier in Isaiah we learned of the then present issue of hypocrisy and powerless praying that caused the people to blame God for not keeping His promises or answering their prayers. God is not the problem, they are. Here, God is graphically pointing out that fact with watchers on the wall, Divine Beings that He has appointed. Now the nation can see how serious YAHWEH is about this. Even though He needs no reminder, this anthropomorphism helps the nation to understand He has someone to remind Him. In other words, He will never forget thus their previous allegations continue to be false.

The watchers have a very simple task.

They are committed to keeping alert and active on its (Jerusalem) behalf, day and night. They are to give themselves no rest. But they also give Yahweh no rest. They are like secretaries of state whose task is to remind the king or other people in power about what needs to be done, in order to make sure that no decision fails to be implemented because someone does not quite get around to it...They take no rest, and they give their superior no rest until the latter implements the plans. (Goldingay 2012, 351)

Isaiah 62:8–9

“The LORD has sworn by His right hand and by His mighty arm: “I will never again give your grain as food for your enemies, Nor will foreigners drink your new wine for which you have labored. But those who harvest it will eat it and praise the LORD; And those who gather it will drink it in the courtyards of My sanctuary.”” (NASB 2020)

God will indeed fulfill all He has disclosed to His people. What are all those promises? Not only has YAHWEH made certain and proven to His people that He will never forget until Jerusalem is an object of praise on the earth. But now He moves to something a Jew would be familiar with, an oath.

YAHWEH swears by Himself. He is swearing an oath to His people proving that what He has said He will do. It is an “irrefutable and unchangeable promise that God must keep as a faithful and truthful God (cf. 45:23). When people swear an oath, they invoke the name of God to assure the listener that God will hold them accountable if they fail to keep their oath. Likewise, God swears by himself and his holiness (45:23; Jer 51:14; Amos 4:2; 6:8) because there is no higher authority to swear by.” (Smith 2009, 651)

When God rescues His people, they will never again lose Jerusalem to an enemy. What they grow, what they make, they will consume. Guaranteed.

How confident is YAHWEH of this, He goes on to explain that those who harvest will eat and praise Him even to the point that the wine produced will be enjoyed by His people in the courtyard of the Temple where YAHWEH is. They will be able to enjoy this as an act of worship and nothing will stop that.

The nation has heard, from Messiah, His mission. They now know what it is He intends to do during His first coming and during His second coming. He is the redeemer. He is the goel of Israel.

When He comes the first time, He is buying His people from the slave market of sin and purchasing the planet back from the one who stole it from Adam. The actions of the Tribulation are all about acting against the usurper and preparing the planet for the takeover which is realized when Messiah returns the second time.

All the actions of the Suffering Servant though have secured the first two actions of the goel.

When He returns the second time, He is operating as the avenger of blood dealing with those who have misused His people. His brothers and sisters, His family.

The promises have been carefully outlined to them by Messiah as well as YAHWEH. This is so certain that even they are spoken about in the past tense.

It is now time for faith.

### Isaiah 62:10–12

“Go through, go through the gates, Clear a way for the people! Build up, build up the highway, Remove the stones, lift up a flag over the peoples. Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, “Behold, your salvation is coming; Behold His reward is with Him, and His compensation before Him.” And they will call them, “The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD”; And you will be called, “Sought Out, A City Not Abandoned.”” (NASB 2020)

What are we waiting for? The call is simple, go through the gate of the city and get moving. Take action now based on the promises that have been heard.

Point one, there will be large numbers of people coming into Jerusalem. Knowing this, what needs to happen right now?

The way for all these people to be able to come in must be prepared for. This is not only in Jerusalem proper. Clear a way, get all the roads cleared off.

Then we see an image that Isaiah uses frequently, that of a highway. He is so convinced of the large numbers of people who will be coming that he uses this term over and over again. Why? He has seen what it is the Lord will do and just how crowded it will be. The need is very real. The need to exercise faith and move forward will also be real.

Remember, at the end of the age there will be destruction all around.

- Step one – “...Clear a way for the people!...” (Isaiah 62:10a, NASB 2020) clear off the roads that survived, clear off the runways and clear the ports.
- Step two – “...Build up, build up the highway, Remove the stones...” (Isaiah 62:10b, NASB 2020) make all of repairs to the roads that are needed. Make them capable of handling even larger numbers of traffic by building them up and making them capable of the heavy traffic anticipated. Repair the runways and widen them, large aircraft are coming, and the numbers will not be small (Isaiah 60:6 – 9).
- Step three – “...lift up a flag over the peoples.” (Isaiah 62:10c, NASB 2020) Restore the road signage so that everyone knows where they are going. Restore the navigation aids for aviation as well as for shipping. Enlarge the ports and the airports. Prepare all the avenues of approach on land, air and sea and make it clear where they are to go.

Only as the people of God, acting in faith, level the road for each other will they as a people ever come to the city of God. It is as the people of God dare to believe that their Savior is the Savior of the end of the earth (v. 11) that they will expend the effort to build a road over which all earth’s peoples can come home to God. (Oswalt 1998, 588-589)

### Isaiah 62:11

“Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, “Behold, your salvation is coming; Behold His reward is with Him, and His compensation before Him.”” (NASB 2020)

Why all this preparation? Simple, a call has gone out to the entire planet. Everyone knows who is now King in Jerusalem. Everyone knows who is now in the Temple. The call has gone out and the entire planet will be streaming into Jerusalem in order to worship the Lord.

In verse 11, Israel is told that. This message has gone out to the entire planet.



How close is all of this to taking place? Close enough that it is time to tell Zion that their salvation is coming. When the redeemer returns, He does so to bring salvation to His people. Their deliverance, safety, and help is already inbound. His coming is imminent. This is a message for today.

As Messiah returns, we see ...”His reward is with Him, and His compensation before Him.” What is His reward? Believers.

John 6:35–40

“Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But you haven’t believed in me even though you have seen me. **However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them.** For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. For it is my Father’s will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day.”” (NLT)

People do not come to Christ because it seems a good idea to them. It never does seem a good idea to sinful people. Apart from a divine work in their souls (cf. 16:8) people remain more or less contentedly in their sins. Before they can come to Christ it is necessary that the Father give them to him. (Morris 1995, 325)

We are God’s love gift to His Son. We have been given to Christ by the Father.

The Hebrew word for reward is שָׂכָר (śākār) occurs 28 times in the OT in the sense of “wage.” (Lipinski 2004, 133)

His blood paid for us. We are His sakar, His reward or payment. The text says His sakar is with Him.

Revelation 19:11–14

“Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.” (ESV)

The last words that Christ said from the cross was a financial term. Τετέλεσται.

The word means to “complete, accomplish, fulfil, pay... Receipts are often introduced by the phrase τετέλεσται, usually written in an abbreviated manner” (Moulton and Milligan 1930, 630)

His reward, is based on His payment for us on the cross, We are His reward. What is being discussed here is the second coming of Jesus Christ which is fully revealed in Revelation 19. His reward, the church is with Him. His compensation, what He has obtained, is before Him, His people.

Isaiah 62:12

“And they will call them, “The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD”; And you will be called, “Sought Out, A City Not Abandoned.”” (NASB 2020)

After Messiah has returned, those who He came to rescue will now be called “the Holy people, the redeemed of the Lord.”

Everyone knows what it is He accomplished upon His return. “The Redeemed of the LORD are those for whom the Lord has accepted the role of Next-of-kin and paid all their debt (35:9–10).” (Motyer 1996, 509)

Messiah has returned and rescued His people. The Lord sought them out, He promised to rescue them and redeem them. That has now been done. As such, they are now a holy people and recognized as such by everyone around the world. They are now serving in the role of priests in the Temple where YAHWEH is. The divine beings are on the wall of the city and all of the visible signs are that Jerusalem has indeed been redeemed by Messiah.

This changes the city from one always on the verge of destruction, one always being fought over, to now it is the city everyone wants to come to. Jerusalem is now sought out.

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