

Isaiah

The Lord Is Salvation

**God
Speaks
To
Israel**

Isaiah 27:2-13

Lesson Twenty-Nine

Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum

Isaiah

The Lord Is Salvation

God Speaks To Israel

God spoke to Israel through Isaiah. In our Scripture lesson for today, He is giving good and bad news. He is promising good things, but also warning about what will happen if Israel is careless about doing God's will. Read Isaiah 27:2-6

If we look back at the fifth chapter of Isaiah, we will see that this song about the vineyard is the opposite of what is said there. For instance, in chapter five, Israel is described as producing only bad fruit. (Isaiah 5:2 Here it is described as a fruitful vineyard. The world will be filled with the fruit. (Isaiah 27:6) In chapter five, Isaiah said that God would not protect His people. (Verse 5) Here He says that He will guard them day and night. (Verse 3)

We can assume from the difference spoken of here that God's judgment listed in chapter five, is now complete and now God is ready to bless His people again.

He speaks of thorns and briars in verse four. These should be seen as Israel's enemies who are also God's enemies. It sounds like God is wishing that there were enemies for Him to destroy. Since this was probably a prophesy about Israel after they returned from being captives in Babylon, their enemies were not yet known. If such an attack were to happen, the enemy would have to make peace with God or suffer the consequences. (Verse 5)

Verse six makes it clear that Israel's purpose is to bless the earth. They will spread like a grape vine all over the earth and provide fruit for all people. What a wonderful future. What a great calling. What an opportunity to be God's messenger to the world.

Read Isaiah 27:7-11. These verses are really difficult for Bible students to understand and agree on. We will see them as a continuation of God's word to Israel. This oracle is the answer to questions stated in verse seven. Isaiah hears someone ask if Israel has been punished as much as the enemies. We have seen, several times in Isaiah, that Israel has suffered. If this was written at the time when Israel came back from Babylonian captivity, there is a lot of punishment in their past. They had suffered attacks from all around them and the northern kingdom, Samaria or Israel, had been defeated by Assyria. The southern kingdom, Judah, had been conquered by Babylon and many of them had been marched off to become the slaves of the Babylonians. Many had died in the process and much of the crops and buildings had been destroyed.

So the questioner wants to know if God has been harder on Israel than on their enemies. Verse eight says that it was close. Israel had suffered a lot. But, both Assyria and Babylon were finally defeated. Assyria was conquered by the Babylonians in 605 BC and Babylon was defeated by the Persians and Medes in 539 BC. It was like a "fierce blast." Israel was still there, and God is very willing to forgive them.

Page Two

Isaiah

The Lord Is Salvation

Hope for the future depended on Israel's change of heart to sincerely worship God. The guilt of Jacob, or Israel, would be taken away by God if they would destroy all the altars in Israel which were dedicated to idols, or false gods. These were to be replaced by altars of worship dedicated to Jehovah God. Their forgiveness didn't depend on their suffering, it depended on their true worship of God.

Verses ten and eleven talk about a city. The city is probably Jerusalem which remains deserted and forsaken. This is because the people continued to worship idols and were "without understanding." The people had no judgment...they didn't try to decide who to worship...they just sort of went with the popular religion.

The last two verses in this chapter are about the end of time. We begin with a reference to the Land of Promise, or Canaan. God speaks of all the territory from the Euphrates to the Wadi, or Brook, of Egypt. The Euphrates is on the north, and the Brook of Egypt is on the south. This includes all of what God had promised Abraham and the Hebrews when they were leaving Egypt under Moses.

God is going to cleanse the people, like the farmer separates the grain from the chaff. God will sound a trumpet and all the people of the world will come to this Holy Land to worship God. This is talking about what will happen when Jesus comes back to earth at the end of time. Here we have the first reference in the Bible to the final trumpet call. This is the great hope of all people who trust in God.

What can we see in this Scripture for us today?

1. God knows everything, even what we think.
2. God has a messenger, like Isaiah, to speak to His people.
3. God is more interested in our good behavior than our bad.
4. God uses people to bless others.
5. God is fair.
6. Worshiping other gods, of our own making, is not satisfactory.
7. Jesus is coming back to claim all God's children. We can depend on it.

*Underlined words and phrases are to be used in completing the Student Worksheet.

Scripture Memory: "Sing about a fruitful vineyard: I, the Lord, watch over it; I water it continually. I guard it day and night so that no one may harm it." Isaiah 27:2b, 3

Lesson Goal: To assure students that God takes care of His own.

Isaiah

The Lord Is Salvation

Student Worksheet

God Speaks to Israel—Isaiah 27:2-13

As the teacher goes through the lesson, listen for answers to these:

1. If such an attack were to happen, the enemy would have to make _____ with God or _____ the consequences.
2. According to verse six, what is Israel's purpose?
3. What are some of the things that Israel, the northern and southern kingdoms had suffered?
4. What will Israel need to do to get their guilt taken away.
5. What are the last two verses in chapter 27 about?
6. This is talking about what will happen when _____ comes back to earth at the _____ of time.

Scripture Memory: “Sing about a fruitful vineyard: I, the Lord, watch over it; I water it continually. I guard it day and night so that no one may harm it.” Isaiah 27:2b, 3

How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that the God of the Bible is the true God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus' name. Jesus' death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.