

# Pentwater Bible Church

*Isaiah Message 140*

*January 2, 2022*



The seven Works of Mercy by Caravaggio Cir. 1607

Daniel E. Woodhead – Pastor Teacher

# Pentwater Bible Church

The Book of Isaiah

One-Hundred-Forty

God Answers Isaiah's Prayer Pt II

January 2, 2022

Daniel E. Woodhead

Isaiah 65:8–16

*<sup>8</sup>Thus saith Jehovah, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not, for a blessing is in it: so will I do for my servants' sake, that I may not destroy them all <sup>9</sup>And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains; and my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there. <sup>10</sup>And Sharon shall be a fold of flocks, and the valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down in, for my people that have sought me. <sup>11</sup>But ye that forsake Jehovah, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for Fortune, and that fill up mingled wine unto Destiny; <sup>12</sup>I will destine you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter; because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but ye did that which was evil in mine eyes, and chose that wherein I delighted not <sup>13</sup>Therefore thus saith the Lord Jehovah, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry; behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty; behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be put to shame; <sup>14</sup>behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall wail for vexation of spirit. <sup>15</sup>And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen; and the Lord Jehovah will slay thee; and he will call his servants by another name: <sup>16</sup>so that he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes (ASV, 1901).*

God begins here using an illustration of the process of pruning grapes vines. He says that “When even a single cluster of grapes is seen on a vine-stem, the vine-pruners say one to another, don’t destroy that stem, but spare it.” Perhaps it is the one that supervises the pruners, perhaps the owner of the vine, when seeing it, says to his servant, spare the vine, don’t cut it down; or don’t cut off the branch on which the cluster is, for there is life and sap in it, and it may grow, and bring forth much fruit. Likewise, God says He will do the same thing when He is engaged in large scale pruning of people if He sees even a small promise of some of them bearing good fruit. This is comforting to the truly godly and gracious people that might be distressed seeing God’s impending judgments of wrath and destruction. We can be comforted that we will be saved from the general ruin. Similarly, as when men are about to cut down a vine, or pluck it up, or prune the unfruitful branches of it, a single cluster of grapes is observed upon it, in which new wine will come from it cause it to be saved. Some examples where the Lord used this promise to save His sheep from destruction coming on the earth through His wrath are:

1. Noah at the deluge
2. Lot at the burning of Sodom
3. Joshua and Caleb, when all the rest that came out of Egypt perished in the wilderness

4. During the Roman invasion of 70 AD believing Jews were warned by Jesus to go to safety.
5. The Rapture of the Church to protect us from the Tribulation
6. During the Tribulation the Jews will flee to Bozrah which is modern day Petra

#### THE ROMAN INVASION OF 70 AD.

Jesus gave His followers instructions to flee to safety in describing to them the future destruction of the temple in 70 AD.

Luke 21:20-24

*<sup>20</sup>And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. <sup>21</sup>Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto (KJV).*

Jesus gave them the sign that would mark the fact that Jerusalem was about to be destroyed. The sign was the surrounding of the City of Jerusalem by armies. The Jewish believers were told that, when they saw this sign, they were to leave Jerusalem and Judea and flee outside the Land.

This prophecy was fulfilled in a very spectacular manner. In the year A.D. 66, the first Jewish revolt broke out against the Romans. When the revolt first began, the Roman general in the Land, Cestus Gallus, came with his armies from Caesarea and surrounded Jerusalem. The surrounding of the city marked the sign that Jesus had promised, and the Jewish believers knew that Jerusalem would soon be destroyed. Jesus had commanded the Jewish believers to desert the city when they saw this happening. While the Romans were surrounding the city this was impossible.

Then Cestus Gallus noticed that his supply lines were insufficient to continue the attack. Since he lacked enough supplies to maintain an extended siege, he lifted the siege of Jerusalem in order to back to Caesarea. On the way, he was attacked by Jewish forces and killed. Temporarily, the armies no longer surrounded the city, so every single Jewish believer was able to leave Jerusalem. They crossed the Jordan River and set up a new community of Jewish believers in the town of Pella in the Transjordan. Jewish believers from Judea, Galilee and the Golan joined them. There they waited for Jesus' prophecy of Jerusalem's destruction to be fulfilled.

In the year A.D. 68, a new Roman general named Vespasian and his son, Titus, again besieged the city, and in the year A.D. 70, the city and the Temple were destroyed. Altogether, 1,200,000 Jews were killed in the final onslaught, but not one Jewish believer died because they obeyed the words of their Messiah.

#### THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

The program of the Rapture

## I Thessalonians 4:13-18

*<sup>13</sup>But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. <sup>15</sup>For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: <sup>17</sup>Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Wherefore comfort one another with these words (KJV).*

## The True Church is Not Condemned

### John 3:17

*<sup>17</sup> For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. <sup>18</sup> He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God (KJV).*

### Romans 8:1

*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (KJV).*

### Ephesians 6:6-7

*<sup>6</sup> To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved: <sup>7</sup> in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace (KJV).*

### Colossians 2:13

*Canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands (ESV).*

## We are Not Saved to Wrath

### I Thessalonians 5:9-11

*<sup>9</sup> For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. <sup>11</sup> Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do (KJV).*

Matthew 3:7

*But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?*

So, Matthew is saying that there is a way to flee from the wrath to come. How do you flee from the wrath to come? It's going to come over the entire world. The only way to flee is to be in Christ and to be with Him off the earth. That's the only way you are going to get out of it. The Lord Jesus also was quoted by Luke saying the same thing.

Luke 21:34-36

*<sup>34</sup> And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. <sup>35</sup> For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man (KJV).*

The Tribulation is coming on the entire world. The only way to escape it is to be off the world and stand before the Son of Man, Jesus. In other words, to be Raptured before the Tribulation.

REFUGE IN BOZRAH DURING THE TRIBULATION

Zechariah 12:1-3

*The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him. Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah [and] against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it (KJV).*

Zechariah here says that the attack will be on Jerusalem. Satan wants to destroy the Jews. Vs 2 a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone show that all nations are gathered together against Jerusalem. From Zechariah 14:1-2 we see that at this point God energized the Jewish forces as recorded in the following two passages, Micah 4:9-5:1 & Zechariah 12:4-9. Here the weak Jews fight like valiant King David did and the ones like David fight like The Angel of Jehovah causing a tremendous decimation in the ranks of the enemy. Because of the superior numbers of the Antichrist's allies, Jerusalem falls anyway. Micah 5:1 makes this comment on the situation: *Smitten with a rod upon the Cheek*" which is a Jewish symbol for defeat in idiomatic phrase form. So once again gentile armies trample Jerusalem down.

The Fleeing to Bozrah

In Micah Chapter 2 the Jews are fleeing the land and we have the clues as to where they go from Matthew 24:15-16 and Revelation 12:6. There are three clues,

- 1) It is into the mountains,
- 2) It is in the wilderness; and
- 3) It is a place prepared in advance. Micah 2 tells us it is Bozrah, or Greek Petra in present day Jordan. The land is called Edom, near Ammon and Moab. Edom is outside the dominion of the Anti-Christ. There is only one way in and it is a wadi or gorge about 1.25 miles long. There is water and good grazing land there and presently nobody lives there. A Roman amphitheater there can seat 3000 or so. So, the purpose here is to destroy the Jews but, they flee to Petra/Bozrah for safety (Jeremiah 49:13-14).

### The Flight of the Remnant from Jerusalem at Mid-Tribulation

Revelation 12 is a symbolic overview of all of Israel's history. In Revelation 12:6 we read, "*The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.*"

Revelation 12:14-16

*And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth (KJV).*

The woman is symbolic of Israel. 1260 days is exactly three- and one-half years. The Bible always uses calendar measures using the standard lunar (prophetic) years of 360 days in each year. It corresponds to a 30-day month we find in Scripture. This also corresponds to Jesus' warning to His disciples on the Mt. of Olives opposite the Second Temple when he gave this sweeping outline of the future. The use of the symbolic terms flood and its counterpart, sea is representative of masses of people and in particular armies.

Matthew 24:15-25

*<sup>15</sup> When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)<sup>16</sup> then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains:<sup>17</sup> let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:<sup>18</sup> neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.<sup>19</sup> And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days.<sup>20</sup> But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:<sup>21</sup> for then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.<sup>22</sup> And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days*

*shall be shortened.* <sup>23</sup> *Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.* <sup>24</sup> *For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.* <sup>25</sup> *Behold, I have told you before (KJV).*

#### THE REMNANT WILL BE SAVED

##### Isaiah 65:9–10

*<sup>9</sup>And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains; and my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there. <sup>10</sup>And Sharon shall be a fold of flocks, and the valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down in, for my people that have sought me (ASV, 1901).*

The threats of the first seven verses in this chapter appeared that God was going to wipe the children of Jacob off the map, but that impression was incorrect. He clearly states that the entire nation of Israel will produce seeds who are chosen by Him to be saved to enter the Messianic kingdom. Those who trust God will be blessed by God (to possess, inherit) and be a blessing to others. Sharon and the Valley of Achor represent the extent of God's blessings in several ways. Geographically, Sharon is a region on the Mediterranean coast in the west of Israel, whereas Achor is in the far eastern part. They both stand for the entire land in an east-west orientation (as does from Dan to Beersheba for a north-south orientation). Sharon is a fertile plain that is associated with the fruitfulness of the land, whereas Achor is a barren wadi that is most famous as the location of the stoning of Achan (Joshua 7:24–26). Isaiah has envisioned a devastated Sharon as a result of God's judgment (Isaiah 33:9), followed by its renewal (Isaiah 35:2). Hosea used Achor to symbolize God's transformation of a bad memory to a place of hope (Hosea 2:15). In addition to the geographical perspective, therefore, these two sites symbolize God's power to overcome the past and bring about new Millennial life.

#### WOE TO THE UNSAVED

##### Isaiah 65:11–12

*<sup>11</sup>But ye that forsake Jehovah, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for Fortune, and that fill up mingled wine unto Destiny; <sup>12</sup>I will destine you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter; because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but ye did that which was evil in mine eyes, and chose that wherein I delighted not (ASV, 1901).*

These verses spell out the opposite of seeking the Lord. The preservation of the remnant does not include the future of those who forsake and forget God. They have abandoned the pure worship that obedience demands and have gone to other gods, seeking the blessings that they can supposedly give. Rather than respond obediently to God's call, they have preferred that which is evil in God's eyes. They will not possess God's mountains because they have forgotten God's holy mountain and the proper worship centered there. They are not among God's "chosen people" because they have decided to choose that which displeases him. God gives us evidence of His past

faithfulness and asks us to trust Him to keep a variety of good promises for the future. Many people who do not trust Him or His Scriptures look to self-help means or fortune tellers to guide their way through this life. So, they who are living in self-induced darkness seek the gods of Fortune and Destiny in an attempt to appeal to them and gain good luck in the future. The mention of *arranging tables* and *filling mixed wine* is what the Roman did offering a ritual meal to the gods. While eating they arranged the idols which were placed on cushions around the table.

#### CONTRAST OF BLESSINGS AND CURSINGS

##### Isaiah 65:13–16

*<sup>13</sup>Therefore thus saith the Lord Jehovah, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry; behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty; behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be put to shame; <sup>14</sup>behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall wail for vexation of spirit. <sup>15</sup>And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen; and the Lord Jehovah will slay thee; and he will call his servants by another name: <sup>16</sup>so that he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes.*

This entire series of contrasts applies to the two classes of people, the believers and the unbelievers. God's servants and His adversaries at all times and in all places. God's servants at all times and in all places would be sustained with spiritual food, and "*rejoice and sing for joy of heart.*" His adversaries would everywhere feel a craving for the "meat" and "drink," which alone satisfy the soul, and would be oppressed coupled with a sense of shame, and suffer a depression of spirit.

Within Scripture and generally in the world people place great emphasis upon a name. In the beginning of Scripture, the line of Cain is contrasted with the line of Seth, in whose days people "*began to call on the name of the LORD*" (Genesis 4:26). The great sin at the tower of Babel occurs when people decide to "*make a name*" for themselves rather than call on God (Genesis 11:4). Abraham, on the other hand, receives a promise that God will make his name great (Genesis 12:2). The law classifies misusing the name of God as a serious offense (Exodus 20:7; Leviticus 19:12; 22:32; 24:16). So, those apart from God in non-belief typically seek to make a name for themselves without honoring the name of God, calling on Him alone and seeking His glory, are bound to fail. Those who have forsaken God leave the legacy of a name that signifies a curse. Like Abram, Sarah, and Jacob, however, God's servants will receive another name that signifies a new level of relationship with God. The resulting situation in the land is that God alone will be honored as the one in whose name blessings are invoked and oaths are taken. He alone is the true God. Since the rejection of God has caused Israel's problems, the recognition of God will introduce a new situation in which the past troubles will be forgotten. God reveals in the last portion of the chapter just how radically new the future will be in the Messianic Kingdom. All who enter the Kingdom will be saved and dependent upon God.



God says that *he who blesseth himself in the earth*. That is, he who shall invoke blessings on himself. *Shall bless himself in the God of truth*. Or by the true God. He shall not seek a blessing from a false god; but he shall come before the true God, and seek a blessing from Him only.

God continues saying *And he that sweareth* which is to say that every oath that is taken in the land shall be by the true God. There shall be no swearing by idols, but the true God shall be everywhere acknowledged. *Because the former troubles are forgotten*. The former punishments and calamities shall be passed away. The favor of God shall be restored. His pure worship shall be re-established, and his name shall be celebrated again in the land. The image here is one of returning prosperity and favor. This is a state when the happiness will be so great that all the former trials and tribulations will be regarded as not worthy of recalling.

Next message: GOD ANSWERS ISAIAH'S PRAYER PT III, THE COMING KINGDOM  
E-mail: [Pentwaterbiblechurch@scofieldinstitute.org](mailto:Pentwaterbiblechurch@scofieldinstitute.org) Call: 877-706-247