

Isaiah 34-45

God Ominous & Gracious

1) God Ominous – ch. 34

a) General Fury – v. 1-5

1. Attitude
2. Decision
3. Consequence

b) Particular Fury – v. 5-8

1. Edom
2. Sacrifice
3. Vengeance
 - Not Revenge
 - Not Restricted to Edom

c) Absolute Authority – v. 9-17

1. To curse the earth
2. To reassign ownership

2) God Gracious – ch. 35

a) Great Reversal – v. 1-2

b) Specific Hope – v. 3-10

1. Coming to Save You – v. 3-4
2. Reverse the Curse – v. 5-7
3. Restore the Wayward – v. 8-10
 - Redeem
 - Ransom

Praxis

1. If all Scripture is profitable for us to hear (2 Tim 3:16-17), how would Isa 34 have profitably benefitted Isaiah's original hearers? How might it positively benefit us to think of God ominous presence & warnings? (i.e., what might be some results of you meditating deeply on Isaiah 34)?
2. Isaiah refers to Israel as "ransomed / redeemed" (35:9-10), terms we use for ourselves as Christians... how does embracing the full meaning of these terms promote our worship, our fellowship?
3. Thought Question: Believing disciples of Jesus are metaphorically already on the "Holy Highway" to Zion, and yet our way is often fraught with difficulty that makes us tend toward "weak hands / feeble knees"... So, if 35:10 says those on the Holy Highway are singing with joy, what perspective(s) allows us to have such joy? What will tend to mute our joy?