

Do Not Fear as They Fear

(July 19, 2022)

The book of **Isaiah** opens with God getting right to the heart of the problem concerning the nation of Israel. The book begins with a vision seen by the prophet Isaiah where God points out the grievous sin of the nation of Israel and how He likens Israel to Sodom. God depicts Israel's sins one after the other. He is rightfully angry with Israel's willful disobedience. This is the nation that God "reared and brought up!" (**Isaiah 1:2**), and yet, God continues to want Israel to be willing to "reason together," (**Isaiah 1:18**). God chastises Israel in the verses following, calling Israel out for her "whoring" and cheating, warning that things will worsen and judgment will come if Israel does not heed the message of God's prophets. Israel's rulers loved to accept bribes and willingly cheated innocent people for their own betterment. The entire system within Israel was one of self-aggrandizement and God had had enough.

Isaiah 2 goes into detail regarding what will happen in the last days. There will be a major geographical change in parts of Israel and the Middle East when the Lord physically returns to the Mount of Olives, following the Tribulation and into the Millennial rule of Jesus over all the earth. Then, the "mountain of the Lord" will become the tallest area there and "nations will stream to it" (**Isaiah 2:2**).

Then **Isaiah 2:6** and following highlights the "day of the Lord," which is when God will judge the nations (see also **Matthew 25**). It's terrifying for those who do not know Him at His return. **Isaiah 3, 4, and 5** highlight in detail the judgments that follow. **Isaiah 6** then points out Isaiah's commission. Can you imagine? You've seen the judgment, mayhem and destruction that God is going to bring/allow to fall on Israel (and the world), and now, you receive a commission to "witness" to the people of Israel.

Isaiah 6 opens with Isaiah seeing a vision of God "...high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying," (**Isaiah 6:1-2**).

Isaiah is so moved by this sight (and who among us would *not* be?), that he realizes that he is "...a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty," (**Isaiah 6:5**). Compared to God's holiness, Isaiah is indeed a sinner and he grasps that fully.

In verse **6**, one of the Seraphim takes a live coal and touches Isaiah's mouth with it, declaring him "clean," with his sins pardoned. His guilt is gone and his sins atoned for and of course, this in turn, makes Isaiah want to serve God that much more. When God asks, "*Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?*" (v **8**), Isaiah is quick to respond with, "*Here I am. Send me!*"

But notice please that God then tells Isaiah not only what to say to the Israelites, but that Israel will not hear, turn or believe the message that Isaiah will present (**Isaiah 6:9-10**). Isaiah asks how long he should do this and God responds in verses **11-13**.

*11...Until the cities lie ruined
and without inhabitant,
until the houses are left deserted
and the fields ruined and ravaged,12 until the Lord has sent everyone far away*

*and the land is utterly forsaken.
 13 And though a tenth remains in the land,
 it will again be laid waste.
 But as the terebinth and oak
 leave stumps when they are cut down,
 so the holy seed will be the stump in the land.*

Wow, imagine being given *that* commission! There is no real upside except for the fact that a remnant or "stump" will remain. God will not fully uproot everything, allowing a stump to remain signifying a few in Israel will return. The holy seed will remain but the generation of Israelites during Isaiah's day? They will be destroyed and not them only, but the cities throughout Israel will lie in ruins uninhabited.

In this case then, the prophet Isaiah's job was to warn Israel, though they would not heed. I cannot imagine a more tiring or unpleasant form of ministry. The warnings given by Isaiah were issued to Israel so that they were without excuse. They could never say to God, "*Well, no one told us!*" They were told repeatedly and yet, in spite of the truth presented, they continued to disregard God and His truth.

Folks, this is what's happening today throughout the world. People have deliberately chosen to disregard God's truth in exchange for Satan's truth, which is no truth at all. We actually have people today (some even within Christendom), who say they don't know what the definition of a woman is now and we need to be careful about our biases.

Moreover, wealthy globalists appear to be directing world affairs behind the scenes through numerous governments. Within the past two years, people like Klaus Schwab have become household names, whereas before that, they were known only within so-called "conspiracy theories." This in and of itself is remarkable because it tells us a number of things. First, these globalists believe they have gone past the point of no return where any rebellion by people will be easily put down. Second, Satan, who works through these globalists, knows his time is drawing very short and needs to act quickly by ramping up pressure on global society. We are watching countries fall and implode (Sri Lanka, Italy, etc.).

In our day, it is very clear that Satan is at work through human agents (as Judas was used by Satan), who have gained their fortunes from their obedience to Satan. Whether they actually worship Satan or not is not really known to us, but from what I have read about many of the so-called "elite," they worship *Lucifer* ("light bearer"), because they see him as the guy who wanted to help humanity, unlike God, whom they believe wants to keep secrets from us. This was evidenced in the opening pages of *Rules for Radicals* by Saul Alinsky, who "high-fived" Satan for being the type of being who stood up to God.

With all the rebellion, mocking of God and His truth, growing persecution against those who agree with God's biblical standards and the increasing problem of reprobate minds throughout global society, is it any wonder that people today, by and large, are incapable of using critical thinking to determine truth and reality? This is the result of them developing reprobate minds. I've talked about this problem addressed in **Romans 1** previously. We are seeing increasing problems throughout society from people who appear to lack any common sense, honor or actual intelligence. Instead, we have transgenders in positions of leadership in the federal government and we are expected to celebrate that along with a

woman's right to kill her unborn child. The same thing that infected society during Isaiah's day where up was down, wrong was right, has affected the world today. Why do we believe the world will escape God's judgment?

Here's more information from Pastor John Haller.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0Ok0V9cSkY>

In fact, at one point God specifically states to Isaiah the following in **Isaiah 8:12**.

*Do not call conspiracy
everything this people calls a conspiracy;
do not fear what they fear,
and do not dread it.*

God warned Isaiah not to fear the enemy as it conspired against Judah. Instead, Isaiah should focus solely on the Lord through his thinking (see also **Matthew 10:28**). Too many Christians today fear too many things: CV, monkey pox, BA.5, potential food shortages and much more when in point of fact, we should be trusting the Lord to guide us through all of it. If we die, we die and we will be far better off because of it, won't we? Yes, take precautions, but the overwhelming fear within society is doing more harm than good.

If you're alive today and did not get the CV jab, you lived through CV and the resultant shut-downs, mask and social distancing mandates. It's doubtful that much of the world will fall in line again to do those things because of fear. Globalists will continue to push the fear though. We were told CV would kill millions and it didn't. Then we were told that avian flu would be the next "big" one and it has come and gone, though it forced many chicken/turkey farmers to destroy their flocks numbering into the millions throughout the world. Now, Monkey Pox is here and comes with dire predictions. Are you giving into the fear yet? I hope not.

It seems clear to me and many others that all of what has happened for the past two to three years has caused great harm to world economies. The supply chain was thoroughly disrupted and has never gotten caught up. Now, with continuing and growing crop shortages throughout the world stemming from any number of reasons (lack of fertilizers and fuels, as well as either a lack of rain or flooding), we are being told or warned that the fall of 2022 and into 2023 there will be dire consequences regarding the food chain and we are destined to see major food shortages.

Some folks have a difficult time believing this scenario. They think that what they are seeing in grocery stores and elsewhere are temporary and soon, things will get back to "normal." I think it's safe to say that what is coming is probably not going to be good and it is certainly not going to take us back to our previous normal. I take this viewpoint because the Bible clearly shows me that every time things built up to the point where God had no recourse but to judge the entire world (Noah's Flood), or a nation, things were really bad then and it all usually stemmed from the fact that people did not want to even *think* of God much less worship Him. Moreover, they wanted to have no part of His "morality," preferring to do things their way. They wanted to be freed from the "chains" of God's moral code.

This happened to Israel during Isaiah's day and what I find fascinating is that Isaiah chose to volunteer for the task of warning God's people. He even learned that his ministry would continue until the land was desolate, in ruins and all the people dead or scattered (except a remnant). Who would want that ministry?

Folks, it's the *same* type of ministry that Christians have this very day! We are tasked with preaching to people about their need for Jesus. We are the voices of believers who stand in the gap between this life and God's judgment for people who do not yet know Him. It would be nice - as some like to think - that there will be a major revival and the world will turn to Christ in repentance and faith. That is not slated to happen that I'm aware of from God's Word. Instead, what is slated to occur is increasingly difficult times as the world moves fast and furiously toward God's judgment. There is no way that His judgment can be avoided.

It's a nice sentiment to believe that God will pour out His Spirit throughout the world and many within this world will see, repent and believe. Unfortunately, too often, God needs to judge regimes, people and empires because of their wanton and continued disregard for Him. Understand that this world continues to march to Satan's drum. He's the world's Pied Piper and he's leading us toward judgment, not revival, as he continues his efforts toward overthrowing God. Satan *wants* this showdown.

I also believe that *ultimately*, there will be revival, but it won't happen until some point of the coming Tribulation where multitudes will see the truth, repent and believe. However, the Bible says many to most of these will be *martyred* for their faith (**Revelation 7**). Why? Because Satan will still control much of the world even during the Tribulation as God pours out His wrath upon humanity and this world.

Yet in spite of the fact that there will likely *not* be major worldwide repentance prior to the Tribulation that would avert God's judgment, our job is the same as Isaiah's or Ezekiel's. That is to tell the lost of their need for Jesus, whether they listen or not.

Are you in or out?