

Theme: Despite their present failures, Isaiah saw the glorious future for God's people, when people from all nations would come to learn and walk in God's ways.

I. Intro – Prophets and Coaches

- A. Coaches have to give both critique and hope
- B. Must challenge but yet focus on goal
- C. Isaiah does same thing - critique and hope
- D. Last week we saw a lot of critique of failure
- E. This week - reminder of glory of God's people

II. Isaiah's Vision of the Future

- A. Isaiah's vision of Judah's future
 - 1. Superscription - new section/circulated separate
 - 2. Literally "word/thing" Isaiah saw
 - 3. Concerning Judah and Jerusalem (1:1)
- B. A glorious future for God's people
 - 1. An important vision (Is 2:2-4; Micah 4:1-3)
 - a. Isaiah, Micah or common source?
 - b. Can't know - inspired by God!
 - 2. A vision of the distant future (v2)
 - a. It shall come to pass - ESV
 - b. In the last days - points to Messianic age
 - 1. Can simply mean future days (Num 24:14)

- 2. Can be TT for Messianic age (Hos 3:5; Acts 2:17)
- 3. 2:2 - Messianic - apocalyptic language; key theme

- 3. A vision of a glorious future in Messianic age
 - a. Mountain of temple - Zion - exalted
 - b. Heb ראש - chief or highest/top - I think chief
 - c. Raised above the hills - homes of gods
 - d. A great reversal - Zion small mountain!
 - e. YHWH recognized as supreme God
- 4. A vision of nations turning to YHWH (v2-3)
 - a. All nations stream to Zion! (v2)
 - b. Psalm 87 - Foreigners born/home in Zion!
 - c. Nations on pilgrimage (v3; [Psa 122:1](#); Zec 8:20-23)
 - d. True worship - Come; YHWH, Jacob; walk, Torah
 - e. Supernatural - river of nations flow uphill; Word causes
 - f. Fulfilled in church - Gal 4:26; 1 Pet 2:6-7; Heb 12:22-24
 - g. Note Acts 1:8; Matt 28:19-20 - Word to nations!
- 5. A vision of universal peace (v4)
 - a. Produced by submission to God's Word
 - b. Effect of Gospel of peace going forth
 - c. Will only be consummated at 2nd coming

III. Isaiah's Challenge to God's People

- A. Let us walk in God's light now! (v5)

- B. If they are to come, we must come now!
- C. If they are to walk, we must walk now!
- D. No fatalism - we must walk to be part of this

- 2. We must be obedient to God's Word
- 3. Are we living in faith and faithfulness now?
- D. Communion - Strength for now, hope for future

IV. Applying the Word

- A. Do we see we live in the glorious time of fulfillment?
 - 1. This is the time of Isaiah's vision
 - 2. This is the time the prophets diligently looked for
 - 3. This is the time angels longed to look into
 - 4. And we are the beneficiaries!
 - 5. Consider how nations have come for 2,000 years
- B. Do we see God is still bringing in the nations?
 - 1. We must be passionate about the lost coming in
 - 2. Includes America, other nations
 - 3. Do we see this is a supernatural work of God?
 - 4. Streams flow up mountains, Zion tallest, etc.
 - 5. Our role is to preach God's Word - this draws them
 - 6. Do we trust God's Word & Spirit to do impossible?
 - 7. Do we look to the future with faith - not fear?
- C. Do we walk in the light of the Lord now?
 - 1. If we wish to see glorious future - walk now

God's Glorious Covenant People

Isaiah 2:1-5
 Psalm 87
 May 17, 2009
 Communion
 Psalm 67

3 He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Micah 4:1-3

Now I am going back to my people, but come, let me warn you of what this people will do to your people **in days to come**. Numbers 24:14

Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and **David their king**. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings **in the last days**. Hosea 3:5

'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Acts 2:17

He has set his foundation on the **holy mountain**; 2the LORD loves the gates of **Zion** more than all the dwellings of Jacob. 3 Glorious things are said of you, O city of God: Selah 4 "I will record **Rahab** and **Babylon** among those who acknowledge me-- **Philistia** too, and **Tyre**, along with **Cush**-- and will say, '**This one was born in Zion**.' " 5 **Indeed, of Zion it will be said, "This one and that one were born in her, and the Most High himself will establish her."** 6 The LORD will write in the register of the peoples: "**This one was born in Zion**." Selah 7 As they make music they will sing, "**All my fountains are in you**." Psalm 87

This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Many peoples and the inhabitants of many cities will yet come, 21 and the inhabitants of one city will go to another and say, 'Let us go at once to entreat the LORD and seek the LORD Almighty. I myself am going.' 22 And many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the LORD Almighty and to entreat him." 23 This is what the LORD Almighty says: "In those days ten men from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, 'Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you.' " Zechariah 8:20-23

But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother. Gal 4:26

For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." 7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone, " 1 Peter 2:6-7 (Quoting Isaiah 28:16)

But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, 23 to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Hebrews 12:22-24