

## **God Will Always Hold-up the Remnant that Overcomes (Slide 1)**

### **Reading Isaiah 1:1-9**

#### **Isaiah 1:10-20 (Slide 2)**

**10** *Hear the word of the Lord,*

*You rulers of Sodom;*

*Give ear to the instruction of our God,*

*You people of Gomorrah.*

**11** *"What are your multiplied sacrifices to Me?"*

*Says the Lord.*

*"I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams*

*And the fat of fed cattle;*

*And I take no pleasure in the blood of bulls, lambs or goats.*

**(Slide 3) 12** *"When you come to appear before Me,*

*Who requires of you this trampling of My courts?"*

**13** *"Bring your worthless offerings no longer,*

*Incense is an abomination to Me.*

*New moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies—*

*I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly.*

**14** *"I hate your new moon festivals and your appointed feasts,*

*They have become a burden to Me;*

*I am weary of bearing them.*

**(Slide 4) 15** *"So when you spread out your hands in prayer,*

*I will hide My eyes from you;*

*Yes, even though you multiply prayers,  
I will not listen.*

*Your hands are covered with blood.*

**16** *"Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean;  
Remove the evil of your deeds from My sight.  
Cease to do evil,*

**(Slide 5) 17** *Learn to do good;*

*Seek justice,*

*Reprove the ruthless,*

*Defend the orphan,*

*Plead for the widow.*

**18** *"Come now, and let us reason together,"*

*Says the Lord,*

*"Though your sins are as scarlet,*

*They will be as white as snow;*

*Though they are red like crimson,*

*They will be like wool.*

**(Slide 6) 19** *"If you consent and obey,*

*You will eat the best of the land;*

**20** *"But if you refuse and rebel,*

*You will be devoured by the sword."*

*Truly, the mouth of the Lord has spoken.*

The Book of Isaiah has 66 Chapters. It is much more than just a History Book. It is a study of the very nature of God and His relationship with

people. It outlines the very evil nature of man left to his own devices and those that are good caught up in the crossfire of their countryman's mistakes.

Many keen scholars consider it to be a miniature Bible. The first 39 Chapters are basically filled with God's judgment on backstabbing (figuratively speaking) and insolent people. Isaiah writes that they are as the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. An evil lot that God destroyed with fire and brimstone because of their brutal homosexuality.

Their immorality has incensed God to the point that He no longer accepts their sacrifices or excuses because of the influence of Nations around them. Judah has sinned, Jerusalem has sinned, the nations about them have sinned and God is simply not going to tolerate it any longer. He will purify His people much like pure Gold is extracted by fire. Much like He did the Children of Israel that He brought out of captivity.

### **Jude 5 (Slide 7)**

*5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.*

For the most part, the final 27 Chapters are filled with God's immeasurable mercy. Like the Books of the New Testament that brings us the story of Christ and the Hope we have in Him, the last portion of Isaiah declares a message of Hope that only God himself has the ability to deliver.

The Messiah, The Savior is coming. The Hope of which only a remnant of people held onto throughout their entire lives. A group of people that reminds me of:

### **Matthew 7:14 (Slide 8)**

*14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

Isaiah writes about the current calamity created by disobedient people who follow their leaders into destruction. But the Love of God within the pages of this great book of theology is ever present as Isaiah writes about a powerful leader to come who will reconcile men back to God.

**Isaiah 7:10-15 (Slide 9)**

**10** Then the Lord spoke again to Ahaz, saying, **11** "Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God; make it deep as Sheol or high as heaven." **12** But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test the Lord!" **13** Then he said, "Listen now, O house of David! Is it too slight a thing for you to try the patience of men, that you will try the patience of my God as well? **(Slide 10)** **14** Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel. **15** He will eat curds and honey at the time He knows enough to refuse evil and choose good.

God has always held a remnant dear unto Himself and it appears in the time where trial and war came for Judah, God was holding up the remnant, the very, very few. And we are blessed today because of the remnant that stayed faithful to God!

**Isaiah 8:9-15 (Slide 11)**

**9** "Be broken, O peoples, and be shattered;  
And give ear, all remote places of the earth.  
Gird yourselves, yet be shattered;  
Gird yourselves, yet be shattered.  
**10** "Devise a plan, but it will be thwarted;  
State a proposal, but it will not stand,  
For God is with us."

**(Slide 12)** **11** For thus the Lord spoke to me with mighty power and instructed me not to walk in the way of this people, saying,

**12** "You are not to say, 'It is a conspiracy!'  
In regard to all that this people call a conspiracy,  
And you are not to fear what they fear or be in dread of it.  
**13** "It is the Lord of hosts whom you should regard as holy.

*And He shall be your fear,  
And He shall be your dread.*

**(Slide 13) 14** *"Then He shall become a sanctuary;*

*But to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over,*

*And a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.*

**15** *"Many will stumble over them,*

*Then they will fall and be broken;*

*They will even be snared and caught."*

**Yet, God Holds the remnant as a people unto Himself.**

## **2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (Slide 14)**

**3** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*

Many will fall but not all! Not everyone buys into the lies and hypocrisy created by living in Idolatry and Malignant Sin and because of that they comfort one another and encourage one another as we do in our dark world.

## **Isaiah 8:16-18 (Slide 15)**

**16** *Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. 17 And I will wait for the Lord who is hiding His face from the house of Jacob; I will even look eagerly for Him. 18 Behold, I and the children whom the Lord has given me are for signs and wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.*

We spoke in our last lesson entitled "Rightly Divide the Word of Truth." In our discussion we clearly see a straight path from the Old Testament that

leads us in a “straight path” to Jesus as recorded in the New Testament. Isaiah wrote a great deal in regards to the coming of Christ.

**Isaiah 9:2-7 (Slide 16)**

*2 The people who walk in darkness*

*Will see a great light;*

*Those who live in a dark land,*

*The light will shine on them.*

*3 You shall multiply the nation,*

*You shall increase their gladness;*

*They will be glad in Your presence*

*As with the gladness of harvest,*

*As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.*

**(Slide 17) 4** *For You shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,*

*The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.*

*5 For every boot of the booted warrior in the battle tumult,*

*And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.*

*6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;*

*And the government will rest on His shoulders;*

*And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.*

**(Slide 18) 7** *There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace,*

*On the throne of David and over his kingdom,*

*To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness*

*From then on and forevermore.*

*The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.*

He also wrote about a remnant that God would call out for his own. The New Testament refers to Christians as a “Called” out people dedicated to God and those who hear the call are elevated as an heir!

**Romans 8:14-17 (Slide 19)**

**14** For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. **15** For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" **16** The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

But the calling is not heard by everyone. Many think they hear it and it is often difficult for human beings to determine their sincerity. But we will know them by their fruits, and as well, their priorities.

Jesus says;

**Matthew 15:4-11 (Slide 20)**

**4** For God said, 'Honor your father and mother,' and, 'He who speaks evil of father or mother is to be put to death.' **5** But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, "Whatever I have that would help you has been given to God," **6** he is not to honor his father or his mother. And by this you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition. **7** You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you:

**(Slide 21) 8** 'This people honors Me with their lips,

But their heart is far away from Me.

**9** 'But in vain do they worship Me,

Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'"

**10** After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, "Hear and understand. **11** It is not what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man."

**Matthew 23:23 (Slide 22)**

**23** "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice

*and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.*

We invalidate God's word when we follow the traditions that reflect or even guide our priorities when they don't align with the good works God has given us to do. We are to search out and help those who are in distress.

### **James 2:14-17 (Slide 23)**

*14 What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? 17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.*

Brethren, we need to examine ourselves to see if we are in the remnant. Before God says to us one day, **"I have had enough."**

When everyone lives for their own pleasure, desire or even an opinion, chaos ensues.

Hosea spoke about it regarding Israel. Notice in the passage we are going to read that He still calls them His people. Also note that this prophecy is delivered at a time when God's people, Israel, appear outwardly to be prosperous, but inwardly they seek only to devise evil. The very innocent are trampled by their immoral corruption.

### **Hosea 4:1-6 (Slide 24)**

*1 Listen to the word of the Lord, O sons of Israel,  
For the Lord has a case against the inhabitants of the land,  
Because there is no faithfulness or kindness  
Or knowledge of God in the land.*

**2** *There is swearing, deception, murder, stealing and adultery. They employ violence, so that bloodshed follows bloodshed.*

**3** *Therefore the land mourns,*

*And everyone who lives in it languishes*

*Along with the beasts of the field and the birds of the sky,*

*And also the fish of the sea disappear.*

**(Slide 25) 4** *Yet let no one find fault, and let none offer reproof;*

*For your people are like those who contend with the priest.*

**5** *So you will stumble by day,*

*And the prophet also will stumble with you by night;*

*And I will destroy your mother.*

**6** *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.*

*Because you have rejected knowledge,*

*I also will reject you from being My priest.*

*Since you have forgotten the law of your God,*

*I also will forget your children.*

**This is what is in their hearts!!!**

Judah's rebellion, as depicted in Isaiah, is often a reflection of God's people today. But there is always a glimmer of hope nearby, a light that is always shining to guide us home. It is life that has sprung up from the personal darkness we have created. It is an everlasting King that we still seek and serve.

**1 Timothy 6:13-16 (Slide 26)**

**13** *I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate, **14** that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of*

*our Lord Jesus Christ, (Slide 27) 15 which He will bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.*

The point of what we have just studied is to see that God is always in control. He is patient and kind. He will gather for Himself those who follow Him. And we can easily recognize that this is a small fraction of people during that time who worshiped Him, as it is a small fraction of people now, who worship Him!

We can also see and take comfort in the fact that no matter what the circumstances are or how deeply we get ourselves into trouble, God is always there. Jesus has risen as an eternal King, Lord of lords, forever.

Lord willing, we will try and gleam more from Isaiah next Sunday.

Are you in the remnant that God will one day, through Christ Jesus, claim as his own? If not, don't delay. Arise and Be Baptized calling on the name of the Lord.

Were you once following the few, the remnant who shine forth in the darkness of the masses, but have gotten sidetracked and have started to follow the very large crowd of people who will eventually stumble and fall. If so, may we pray for you and help adjust your course before God says, "enough is enough!"

Invitation