

What Sort of Ending Is This? A Tension Filled Finale, Part 7
What Sort of Ending Is This? Intentional Tension
Isaiah 66:7-24

- I. The Full Metaphor of the Family (7-14)
 - A. The promise of “birth” shows God is a covenant making, covenant keeping God
 - B. In Isaiah 49:14-23, we saw Zion as bride and mother, now we see the focus on the children she brings forth.
 - C. Who are these children?
 - 1. Those who love God and His people (10a)
 - 2. Those who mourn because of God and His people (10b)
- II. God’s Act of Judgment (14-18)
 - A. “Indignant toward His enemies”
 - B. Fire, whirlwind, sword
 - C. Hypocrisy brought to an end (17)
 - D. The glory of God displayed in judgment (18)
- III. The Glory of “Survivors” By God’s Grace (19-23)
 - A. God will place a “sign” among them (possible cross reference to Matthew 12:38-40)
 - B. Survivors will come to the nations
 - 1. To declare God’s glory
 - 2. To bring in an offering of all peoples to the Lord
 - C. Priests and Levites
 - 1. From among the returning Hebrews?
 - 2. From the returning Gentiles?
 - 3. YES!
 - D. All mankind will bow before the Lord, from everlasting to everlasting
- IV. The Closing Tension: When “All” Doesn’t Mean “All” (24)

- A. They – those redeemed and renewed – will look on the corpses of the who remain in a state of rebellion (cf. Isaiah 1:28)
- B. The worm will not die; the fire will not be quenched (cf. Mark 9:38-50)
- C. Abhorrence to all mankind (cf. Daniel 12:2)
 - 1. The Hebrew word for abhorrence is only used 2x in the OT: here and Daniel
 - 2. Final resurrection and judgment is the context
- D. Why end on such a note?
 - 1. Consider the audience
 - 2. Consider the reality of things