

A Trek Through Isaiah 30 - Is 27:1-13

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Prayer

Introduction

For today

- Universal Israel 27:1-13

(9:35)

The righteous shall live by faith.

Ro 1:17 ...“The righteous shall live by faith.”

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

- He exists: He is **all powerful**.
 - Power is the ability to carry out one’s purpose.
 - All power is of God, from God, by God
 - Ps 62:11 Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,
 - He has all power. Depends on nothing else.
 - He is the source of all power. No creature has any power not delegated by God.
 - He maintains all delegated power.
 - Heb 1:3 he upholds the universe by the word of his power.
 - He is able to accomplish all His will.
 - Ps 115:3 Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.
 - What this means for us who believe
 - We can believe in His word
 - Heb 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
 - We can believe in things not seen: an all-powerful God. Creation witnesses to the power of God. But men suppress that truth, saying no God or balanced good and evil (eastern yin-yang and the Star Wars force). God’s word reminds us of the truth.
 - We can believe in things hoped for: His promises fulfilled. Men say that everything continues as always, but God’s word shows us that the King will return.
 - We can share in His power
 - 2 Ch 16:9 For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.
 - We can share in God’s power
 - By hearing His word
 - By doing good: (1) right goal (2) right motive (3) right means

(9:40)

Universal Israel 27:1-13

Fifth oracle in the third series: triumphant end

	One-world Government	Davidic Monarchy	Collective Security and Self-sufficiency	The People of God	Triumphant End
3	24:1-20 The city of chaos	24:21-23 The King of glory	25:1-12 Salvation for all	26:1-21 The strong city	27:1-13 Universal Israel

In 26:20-21 God's people were to hide and wait. Here is their final outcome.

Fourth elaboration of the downfall of the world city.

Structure

- A1 Heavenly victory v1
- B1 Vineyard people v2-6
- C1 God's people restored v7-9
- C2 The world city brought down v10-11
- B2 Harvested people v12
- A2 Earthly jubilee v13

Yahweh's victory 27:1

In that day the Lord with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea.

- Here is the final victory over the forces of evil.
 - Re 24:21 On that day the Lord will punish the host of heaven, in heaven, and the kings of the earth, on the earth.
- Picture of hero killing a monster. Borrowed from Canaanite mythology but this is real.
- Lord. All His victory
- Sword. Symbolizes His action
 - Hard. Not easily broken. Does not become dull. Unrelenting.
 - Great. Equal to any task.
 - Strong. Fit for the hand of the LORD. More powerful than any foe.
 - As Dt 32:39-41 See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god beside me; 40 For I lift up my hand to heaven and swear, As I live forever, 41 if I sharpen my flashing sword and my hand takes hold on judgment, I will take vengeance on my adversaries and will repay those who hate me.
- Leviathan...serpent...dragon
 - Symbolizes powerful forces arrayed against the LORD.
 - Much disagreement among the commentators.
 - May refer to nations: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon.
 - May refer to heavenly forces of evil.
 - Serpent. As Gen 3:1.
- Fleeing...twisting
 - Satan is no match for the LORD.
 - Twisting may be (1) devious (2) seeking to evade

(9:45)

Vineyard people 27:2-6

2 In that day, "A pleasant vineyard, sing of it! 3 I, the Lord, am its keeper; every moment I water it. Lest anyone punish it, I keep it night and day; 4 I have no wrath. Would that I had thorns and briers to battle! I would march against them, I would burn them up together. 5 Or let them lay hold of my protection, let them make peace with me, let them make peace with me." 6 In days to come Jacob shall take root, Israel shall blossom and put forth shoots and fill the whole world with fruit.

- Here is what God will do with His people in the end times, using the figure of a vineyard. Israel is protected and cared for by the Lord, and bears fruit that fills the whole world.
- Contrast Is 5:1-6 the vineyard of the failed nation under God's wrath.
- V2 pleasant vineyard.
 - Heb vineyard of wine.
 - Successful where the previous vineyard had failed.
- V3 Its Keeper.
 - Watered continually where previously rain was withheld.
 - Now protected; previously open to enemies
 - Cared for continually night and day.
- V4 Its security
 - I have no wrath.
 - Now all sins forgiven. Before there was only judgment.
 - thorns and briers.
 - Picture of enemies. Now defeated by God. Before, the vineyard was given over to them.
- V5 Hope for the enemies
 - Picture of taking hold of the horns of the altar. As 1 Ki 1:50 Adonijah seeking refuge from Solomon. Complete seeking of refuge.
 - Offer of peace 2x
- V6 Fruitfulness
 - Picture of a fruitful plant
 - fill the whole world. Influence all peoples. Fulfilled by the gospel.
 - Same as Babylon in Is 14:21 but the results are far different.

God's people **redeemed** 27:7-9

7 Has he struck them as he struck those who struck them? Or have they been slain as their slayers were slain? 8 Measure by measure, by exile you contended with them; he removed them with his fierce breath in the day of the east wind. 9 Therefore by this the guilt of Jacob will be atoned for, and this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin: when he makes all the stones of the altars like chalkstones crushed to pieces,

no Asherim or incense altars will remain standing.

- Here the prophet shows how God will fulfill His plan for his people.
- V7 Raising an objection
 - Phrased as a question: Has God treated His people in the same manner as the pagan nations.
 - A: No. Isaiah will show that God's people see discipline while unbelievers get destruction.
- V8 Measured discipline
 - Measure by measure. According to His purpose.
 - By exile. Rather than death. With a promise to bring them back.
 - Fierce breath. Not negligible.
 - East wind. strong but temporary.
- V9 Holiness achieved and expressed
 - by this the guilt of Jacob will be atoned for
 - The exile was the means by which idolatry was removed from Judah. Not the basis for their atonement. The result would be that the idols would be completely removed.
 - Full fruit. Resulting change in behavior.
 - altars...Asherim or incense altars. Idol worship done away with.
- Note the contrasting result of trials
 - For believers, discipline leading to holiness and life.
 - For unbelievers, hardening leading to sin and death

The city **judged** 27:10-11

10 For the fortified city is solitary, a habitation deserted and forsaken, like the wilderness; there the calf grazes; there it lies down and strips its branches. 11 When its boughs are dry, they are broken; women come and make a fire of them. For this is a people without discernment; therefore he who made them will not have compassion on them; he who formed them will show them no favor.

- Here is a picture of an unnamed city judged by God. May refer to Jerusalem or to the world city.
- V10-11a. The city in ruins
 - picture of livestock grazing among deserted ruins.
 - picture of a dead tree used for firewood.
- V11b. Reason for the judgment.
 - without discernment. Of the things of God.
- V11c. Result of the judgment
 - He who made them. Creator.
 - No compassion. As mother's love.
 - No favor. grace.

Harvested people 27:12

12 In that day from the river Euphrates to the Brook of Egypt the Lord will thresh out the grain, and you will be gleaned one by one, O people of Israel.

- Here God's people are carefully gathered
- River Euphrates to the Brook of Egypt.
 - From the entire world
- thresh out the grain, and you will be gleaned
 - Picture of gleaning after harvest
- one by one, O people of Israel.
 - Carefully and tenderly gathered

Jubilee gathering 27:13

13 And in that day a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were lost in the land of Assyria and those who were driven out to the land of Egypt will come and worship the Lord on the holy mountain at Jerusalem.

- Here God's people are gathered to worship Him.
- a great trumpet will be blown
 - As the Jubilee feast Lv 25:9-10 Then you shall sound the loud trumpet on the tenth day of the seventh month. On the Day of Atonement you shall sound the trumpet throughout all your land. 10 And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his clan.
- Egypt...Assyria.
 - From the whole world.
- worship. All together.

(10:00)

Discussion

We will break into two groups to discuss today's passage. Here are the topics:

1. **27:1 Yahweh's victory**
 - a. **He will slay the dragon**
2. **27:2-6 Vineyard people**
 - a. **Kept and cared for**
 - b. **Being fruitful**
3. **27:7-9 Redemption**
 - a. **Measured discipline**
 - b. **Idols removed**

Join the group with the topic that seems most significant. Must be at least three people in each group. Select one person to scribe. Each group will report to the class what they found.

In your group, discuss

- **See:** Something about God that you see in the passage
- **Know:** The effect that this view of God has upon you.
- **Respond:** A way to respond to what you have seen and come to know.

For next week:

- Review 13 - 27

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