

<sup>17</sup> At the end of seventy years, the LORD will visit Tyre, and she will return to her wages and will prostitute herself with all the kingdoms of the world on the face of the earth. <sup>18</sup> Her merchandise and her wages will be holy to the LORD. It will not be stored or hoarded, but her merchandise will supply abundant food and fine clothing for those who dwell before the LORD.

### Judgment on the Whole Earth

**24** Behold, the LORD will empty the earth and make it desolate,

and he will twist its surface and scatter its inhabitants.

<sup>2</sup> And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest;

as with the slave, so with his master;

as with the maid, so with her mistress;

as with the buyer, so with the seller;

as with the lender, so with the borrower;

as with the creditor, so with the debtor.

<sup>3</sup> The earth shall be utterly empty and utterly plundered;

for the LORD has spoken this word.

<sup>4</sup> The earth mourns and withers;

the world languishes and withers;

the highest people of the earth languish.

<sup>5</sup> The earth lies defiled

under its inhabitants;

for they have transgressed the laws,

violated the statutes,

broken the everlasting covenant.

<sup>17</sup> After seventy years God lifts his judgment to allow Tyre a second opportunity, but she returns to her former ways. The word prostitute means a selling of self w/out considering the consequences. Tyre has learned nothing in 70 years.

<sup>18</sup> No matter what Tyre does or intends for herself, God has other plans. God has plans to use the gains of Tyre for his kingdom. She could have changed and also blessed, but this does not stop God from his plans. God uses both the righteous & the wicked for his purpose. The difference is one he blesses the other receives no benefit in doing God's will.

chapters 24-27 God turns from individual nations to a universal judgment of the nations. All nations are descendant from Noah. (Gen 9.16) and God has placed in the knowledge of right & wrong (Rom 2.12-16)

<sup>1</sup> Behold sets the stage for what is to happen. No time near or far is set. There is a total destruction here. A judgment that cannot be missed. God will use the earth as part of his judgment. Earth may be whole earth or just the region covered in the previous section.

<sup>2</sup> Class distinctions will be wiped out. In judgment all are the same when examined by God. It should be noted this is also how God wants his church to function. (see Col. 3.11)

<sup>3</sup> God does not plan to overlook anyone. The earth represents every place man lives and sins. You cannot hide from God.

<sup>4</sup> The personification of the earth to represent humanity, as Judah and Jerusalem in earlier chapters represented the Hebrew people. This prophecy is written in the present tense to show that Isaiah is able to actually see these events as happening.

<sup>5</sup> The reason for the earth being in a sorry state is the people's rejection of God. It is not just some sinning but a complete refusal of the people to be God's people. Their covenant relationship requires obedience. They have not only left God out of their lives they have chosen to rewrite his laws to their benefit. They are no longer living as God's people. This section seems to carry extra weight and point to Judah.

6 Therefore a curse devours the earth,  
and its inhabitants suffer for their guilt;  
therefore the inhabitants of the earth are scorched,  
and few men are left.

7 The wine mourns,  
the vine languishes,  
all the merry-hearted sigh.

8 The mirth of the tambourines is stilled,  
the noise of the jubilant has ceased,  
the mirth of the lyre is stilled.

9 No more do they drink wine with singing;  
strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.

10 The wasted city is broken down;  
every house is shut up so that none can enter.

11 There is an outcry in the streets for lack of wine;  
all joy has grown dark;  
the gladness of the earth is banished.

12 Desolation is left in the city;  
the gates are battered into ruins.

13 For thus it shall be in the midst of the earth  
among the nations,  
as when an olive tree is beaten,  
as at the gleaning when the grape harvest is done.

14 They lift up their voices, they sing for joy;  
over the majesty of the LORD they shout from  
the west.

15 Therefore in the east give glory to the LORD;  
in the coastlands of the sea, give glory to the  
name of the LORD, the God of Israel.

CITY OF DEFEATED  
People Living w/out  
Hope

The Remnant is  
now harvested to  
Bring Joy

6 Therefore, the sins mentioned in previous verse have consequences. The earth, nature, becomes a tool of God in dealing with sinfulness. The people are aware that this has happened because of their actions causing GUILT. Here again only a few or remnant are left.

7 Here is the picture of a poor wine harvest with inferior crop of grapes. Even the vines are suffering. This makes the people upset, but there is no mention of their turning to God.

8 All joy has ceased. Silence replaces the parties and sinful activities. The people under the hand of God's judgment cannot find a reason to rejoice or anything to celebrate.

9 Drinking is no longer part of joy, it is now a way to cover for all that has happened to them. They drink to dull their pain. No one has a reason to sing.

10 Here an unnamed and possibly symbolic city is described as broken down. The people who are left are living behind locked doors afraid to let anyone in.

11 There is no wine left to dull the pain. The people's lives are filled with gloom. The darkness is one of the defeated souls of the people. Even simple natural joy is gone from their lives.

12 This is the picture of a city after it is defeated and the enemy has broken down the gates and taken everything of value leaving ruin and rubble.

13 Here again is the promise of a remnant of the people after the rest are killed or taken captive. At harvest there are always olives that are missed, grapes left on the vine. These now become the hope of the future.

14 This remnant has been spared and turns to God expressing their joy so loud it is a shout. Youngs, P. 169 "They gave a ringing cry." The cry comes from the west. When it appeared hope was gone and the sun is setting they are delivered an shout for joy.

15 The response from the East is to give glory to the Lord. Everyone is now celebrating deliverance. They no longer are seen as a small remnant but as the people saved by and serving the living God. West, east, coastline it does not matter, where ever they are on earth they serve and rejoice in His name.

16 From the ends of the earth we hear songs of praise,  
of glory to the Righteous One.  
But I say, "I waste away,  
I waste away. Woe is me!  
For the traitors have betrayed,  
with betrayal the traitors have betrayed."

17 Terror and the pit and the snare  
are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth!

18 He who flees at the sound of the terror  
shall fall into the pit,  
and he who climbs out of the pit  
shall be caught in the snare.

For the windows of heaven are opened, - Biological Quality Flood  
and the foundations of the earth Much like an earthquake  
tremble. Everything is shaken

19 The earth is utterly broken,  
the earth is split apart,  
the earth is violently shaken.

20 The earth staggers like a drunken man;  
it sways like a hut;  
its transgression lies heavy upon it,  
and it falls, and will not rise again.

21 On that day the LORD will punish  
the host of heaven, in heaven, (2<sup>ND</sup> Heaven)  
and the kings of the earth, on the earth.

22 They will be gathered together  
as prisoners in a pit;

16 Here is a contrast as many think all is better and start to praise God, "but Isaiah knows that the singing is premature." (Jones P 77)  
The verse ends with a 5 fold repetition of the Hebrew word that means "treachery," "plunder," or "betray." Here is a picture that all seems right on the surface while there is hidden sin & treachery.

17-18 The theme of God's Judgment returns. Using identical language as Jeremiah 48:43-44 where it is impossible for anyone to escape. The PIT AND THE SNARE are traps set to catch an animal. Here people flee at what they hear. Living thus they fall into the traps set for them.

19 The physical world is totally destroyed by the earthquake. The devastation is described threefold, broken, split, shaken. God has destroyed their line right down to their physical foundation.

20 Anyone who has ever been in an earthquake knows you have no balance and just grab on and pray. The earth is said to shake because of sin of humanity. Nothing is left standing.

21 God will not overlook anyone in his dealing with man. Heaven here is the 2<sup>ND</sup> Heaven of Power and Authority. High Kings of large Kingdom like in Isaiah 12 in Babylon, or minor earthly Kings of lesser nations.

22 Here is a picture of judgment. This is the pit of Hades where they wait the final judgment and eternal punishment. It is also a picture of being taken captive and waiting a certain death.

they will be shut up in a prison,  
and after many days they will be  
punished.

- 23 Then the moon will be confounded  
and the sun ashamed,  
for the LORD of hosts reigns  
on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,  
and his glory will be before his elders.

God Will Swallow Up Death Forever (Hymn of Praise and Victory)

- 25** O LORD, you are my God;  
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
- 2 For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the foreigners' palace is a city no more;  
it will never be rebuilt.
- 3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
- 4 For you have been a stronghold to the poor,  
a stronghold to the needy in his distress,  
a shelter from the storm and a shade from  
the heat;  
for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm  
against a wall,  
like heat in a dry place.
- 5 You subdue the noise of the foreigners;  
as heat by the shade of a cloud,  
so the song of the ruthless is put down.

(23) MOST MISS THE PROPHETIC LANGUAGE HERE. Even as vs. 21 shows rulers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> heaven. Here rulers both small and large are ASHAMED and hide when compared to the splendor of the Living God. Everywhere God is worshipped. IN THE 3<sup>rd</sup> Heaven and on earth in Jerusalem where God has visited his people. All who know God will worship Him. Zion & Jerusalem represent everywhere & anywhere God is known and served. THE LOCATION OF THE ELDERS IS NOT SHOWN. AT ALL TIMES ELDERS WORSHIP GOD IN HEAVEN. (REV. 4.4)

THIS SECTION IS 24.1-23 MOVES FROM GOD'S JUDGMENT EMPTYING THE EARTH (VS.1), MOVING THROUGH MULTIPLE JUDGMENTS THAT EVEN SHAKE THE EARTH (VSS. 19-20) FINALLY, FINISHING UP WITH PEOPLE WORSHIPPING GOD IN THE 3<sup>rd</sup> HEAVEN AND ALL OVER THE EARTH. (VS. 23)

CHAPTER 25 IS A SONG/HYMN OF PRAISE THAT FOLLOWS 24.23 SHOWING GOD AS THE ONE TO BE WORSHIPPED.

- ① Isaiah transports the reader into the future. Here God is seen fulfilling his promises. God is faithful and sure. WHAT HE PROMISED IN THE PAST WILL BE FULFILLED IN THE FUTURE.
- ② THE CITY AND VILLAGES HERE REPRESENTS THE PHYSICAL KINGDOMS OF EVIL, AND THE SPIRITUAL REALM OF DARKNESS. THOUGH THEY USUALLY SAW EVERYTHING ON A PHYSICAL LEVEL. THERE IS COMING A FINAL DEFEAT OF ALL EVIL.
- ③ HERE THE RIGHTEOUS AND UNRIGHTEOUS WILL BE SEPARATED. USING IMAGES THEY RELATE TO THEY ARE LIFTED UP WHILE EVIL PEOPLE HIDE FROM GOD AS REPRESENTED HERE AS THE ONES TO BE FEARED. SOME SEE THIS AS AN EARTHY CONVERSION WHILE THE CONTEXT IS ABOUT A FUTURE FINAL SPIRITUAL KINGDOM OF VICTORY & HOLINESS.
- ④ GOD IS SEEN HERE AS THE BENEFACTOR OF HIS PEOPLE. GOD HAS PROTECTED THEM IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, NATURAL (STORMS) AND THOSE CREATED BY EVIL MEN (RUTHLESS NATIONS). GOD IS NOT A RESPECTOR OF PEOPLE AND FAVORS THE POOR WHO NEED HIM AND SEEK HIS HELP.
- ⑤ EVEN IN THE WORST CIRCUMSTANCES GOD PROVIDES RELIEF. THE CLOUD BLOCKS THE SUN FROM BURNING AS GOD BLOCKS THE ENEMY FROM SPEAKING EVIL. GOD TAKES AWAY THE ENEMY'S SONG OF JOY BY DEFEATING HIM. GOD DOES NOT REMOVE THE INTENSE HEAT OF THE SUN, HE PROVIDES PROTECTION FOR HIS PEOPLE WHILE OTHERS CONTINUE TO SUFFER.