

No God like Jehovah

Text: Isaiah 26:11-21

Date: 8-22-21 @ 10:30 AM

Truth: The deliverance for God's people is proven through the undeniable reality of God's omnipotent power. Jehovah's power will overwhelm the unrighteous. Jehovah will continue to work on behalf of His people and no other lord will stand against Him. In the end we can say with Isaiah, there is no one like Jehovah; therefore we can trust in our Lord.

I. **Because of the Lord's zeal for His people, Jehovah will overwhelm the unrighteous (Isa. 26:11).**

In the end many people never come to a place of righteous living when God lavishes His favor upon them. The wicked only learn God's favor through His judgment hand on their lives. Even though they lived in a land of uprightness (v. 10) and God had given them His law and prophets, they refused to live righteously. With Isaiah we can say that God's favor is not enough; rather, there must be a changed heart.

God desires a heart change and for people to lead holy and righteous lives. All else, as we see here, will end in judgment. God's vengeance will punish the wicked which opens the door for His purposes for the righteous to be completed. This verse then proves once for all that not all men will be saved.

II. **Because of the Lord's past dealings, Jehovah will righteously work out His plan for the benefit of His people (Isa. 26:12).**

What has God done in the past? He has righteously devoured the adversaries of His people all the while in His zeal now providing peace for His people.

Isaiah trusts the Lord for the future based on Jehovah's mercy and favor in the past. In the midst of God's judgment, in the middle of the nation's falling away from the Lord, Isaiah believes that God will keep His word!

III. **Because of the Lord's triumphs over other gods, the people will remain true to Jehovah for He alone should receive honor (Isa 26:13-15).**

The verb *dominion* is the form of the noun of the Hebrew word of *baal*. Baal was a god that caused many problems and grief for God's people; yet this is not the main use of the word. The word means *husband* and strongly suggests that Isaiah was saying the nation had been unfaithful to its true husband: Jehovah. They had married false gods instead.

Instead of honoring the vanity of these man-made deities, the people would now honor the name and character of Jehovah.

Jehovah has demonstrated in the past that He will win the victory. The demonic forces behind these idols were dealt a death blow at the Lord Jesus' crucifixion. Who can be against us if God be for us? All of the things like trials, distress, persecution, famine, peril, nakedness, and sword can come our way, but no matter what we remain conquerors through the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ.

All other gods are dead. The lifeless power and work of these idols that man had conceived was now overthrown by Jehovah's powerful visitation. It was such a one-sided match that God made their memory to even perish. The real Master, the real Lord, is God Himself.

IV. During the time of the Lord's judgment, the people will recognize that they have failed to perform the duties that Jehovah called the nation to (Isa. 26:16-18).

Isaiah bears witness to the struggles and trials the Israelites experienced which drove them to the Lord. The phrase *poured out a prayer* is actually a word for *whispering* for the people in the midst of great affliction could barely utter a word because of thirst or sheer terror. They could barely register an audible prayer to Him.

Through God's chastening His people, he will bring them to the place where they can barely speak to Him in prayer. This judgment was so fierce that the people in one sense were left to but barely utter a quiet word to Jehovah for help.

The pain that the people experienced was dreadful to bear. The people recognized that they had brought the pain on themselves, and the picture here is that the people tried to solve the problem themselves.

Instead of the joy of delivery of a baby, the outcome was *wind or breath*. A person cannot see either. All the pains that childbirth brought forth were emptiness, nothing, and no results.

In the end salvation for the nation, -- or for that fact salvation from other nations -- could not be attained. Human effort falls woefully short of its intended outcome. Man apart from God could not bring about any salvation from their oppressors. When man turns from true worship of Jehovah to devotion to man-made idols, they will find that no God is like Jehovah!

V. Because of the Lord's plan, Jehovah will graciously save His people (Isa. 26:19-21).

The prophet paints the picture of what the believing people should do in times of crises and struggle to trust God. Man's struggles and man's attempts to fix the crisis, the judgment, and ultimately the death will end in futility. In this time Isaiah himself looked to God. He brings all his thoughts and petitions to God and finds the comfort and reassurance of God more than enough to quell his fears.

In the end God will vindicate the righteous people who have been killed. The earth will reveal those whose lives have been taken and no more will it conceal those who have been slain. Based on Jehovah's justice, the Lord will make all things right as He judges the unrighteous. All of man's sins will be made known no matter if they were secret or public.

Conclusion

Isa. 25:1 proclaimed that the Lord was His God. Through His judgment and redemption, mankind would once again experience the totality of God's blessings in the future kingdom. The believing people, whether in Isaiah's day or this day or in the future day, can know that deliverance comes from God. This great song expresses with certainty that deliverance will come to those who believe, not because of their own doing, but from solely due to God's work on our behalf. Therefore, let us truly trust Him and believe that there truly is no God like Jehovah!