

Judgment, Punishment, and Redemption

Text: Isaiah 27:1-13

Date: 8-29-21 @ 10:30 AM

Truth: In the midst of the judgment message Isaiah prophesies the future salvation of the nation. Though the surrounding nations would judge Israel, Israel would not be annihilated, thus opening the door for the Messiah to come and save His people from their sin. In God's justice, He purges the people and mercifully prepares the remnant for the future return of their Messiah.

I. Jehovah dispatches exceeding judgment on the nations (Isa. 27:1).

"The power of destruction resides not in the sword itself, but in the Lord who wields it" (Young 233). The sword then is equivalent to saying that God Himself will be behind the judgment.

No matter what the opposition is, no matter what kingdoms are arrayed in battle, God will be victorious.

II. Jehovah promises the future salvation of His people (Isa. 27:2-6).

In that day the Lord will plant another vineyard, but the results will be much different than the former one.

It could be said that the vineyard is fulfilling its purpose, which is quite opposite of the song in chapter five. The vineyard is fruitful now.

The care of this vineyard is not left to frail, feeble men, but Jehovah Himself is watching over His prized possession.

God will do everything needed prevent anyone from damaging His vineyard.

They cannot succeed for it is God who watches over them night and day. What love! What protection! What peace! Psalm 121:4-5.

He is no longer punishing but protecting. The wrath that God once had towards is people is now spent.

What do the briars and thorns represent? The judgment of God on His people through the enemies like Assyria and Babylon. God had previously taken His hedge of protection from His people (Isa. 5:5); now He battles against these enemies where He conquers and destroys them.

God is sovereignly reigning and ruling and now that His people have repented He will battle for them and the opposition will fall. How wonderful to trust in a God of grace who battles for His people!

God is willing and waiting to give His protection to those who desires that peace.

III. Jehovah demonstrates grace in judgment upon His people (Isa. 27:7-8).

Will God judge Israel in the same way that He would judge Israel's opponents like Assyria?

NET: "Has the LORD struck down Israel like he did their oppressors? Has Israel been killed like their enemies?"

The enemy of God's people would be completely destroyed (Isa. 26:14), yet in God's mercy His people would be judged, purified, and the remnant redeemed. Through this remnant would come the Messiah, the Redeemer of His people.

While other nations were left in total ruin and extinct, Israel was left with hope and future help centered in Jehovah Himself.

IV. Jehovah exhausts His long-suffering and executes His judgment (Isa. 27:9-11).

While the nation will not perish, the iniquity must be dealt with properly and paid for completely.

Through atonement, the sin is "covered from the eyes of the holy God. . .The sin is dealt with so effectively that it no longer remains as the object of God's condemnation [and wrath]" (Hailey 221-222).

Truth: The exile did not atone for the people's sins, but it did purify them so that they would come to a place where they would confess and repent of their idolatry. Prov. 16:6. Once purified, they would now be ripe for confession. They would demonstrate that works must follow true faith as they removed all traces of idols from their lives.

When a nation forgets its Maker and replaces Him with idolatry, judgment will swiftly follow upon its people.

Hope and Salvation (Isa. 27:12-13)

Judgment on the nations. Punishment upon God's people. Redemption for the nation. God always has an answer for sin. He always has hope through His Son. Shouldn't you come to a place in your life that you should live believing God's ways, living life according to His plan, and placing yourself in His hands?