

# Joy and Judgment

Text: Isaiah 32

Date: 2-13-22 @ 10:30 AM

**Truth:** After oh-so-many weeks speaking about judgment for sin, we finally get to hear some good news from Isaiah! But as we well know, the brightness of light seems so much more intense when contrasted with the blackness of sin and judgment, so those weeks of doom and gloom were important, not only as a warning to us, but it also shows us how great our Savior is.

## I. The coming king and kingdom will rule incomparably and unequaled (Isa. 32:1-8).

**While this specific chapter may not be speaking of the Messiah specifically, it can only be fulfilled through His rule, kingdom, and reign.**

Christ's government provides:

- Hiding place from the wind
- Shelter from a storm
- Stream of water in a dry desert
- Shade of a large rock in a weary land

A complete reversal will unfold so that the believers in the kingdom will be have their *eyes* and *ears* open to be able to understand and hear the spiritual things of this king clearly.

Where their minds had been insensitive to God, they now will understand and follow Him.

God had not failed them; Judah had failed God.

With clear eyes, open ears, tender hearts, and willing tongues, the people will now be able to see through all spiritual charades. They will be able to evaluate the true conditions of man's hearts.

What makes all the difference? Repentant hearts and a righteous King!

## II. The message to the women reminds the nation of the certainty of their judgment (Isa. 32:9-14).

The first signs of God's judgment would be the failing fruit harvest.

By now Isaiah had no concern for the outward appearance of these people insomuch as he did for their hearts. He did not want mere change of clothes but true humility and repentance before God. He was pleading for the people in general and the women in particular to investigate their lives and make the necessary changes to show they truly desired inward repentance.

What was a rich land, a land flowing with milk and honey, will now become desolate and overrun with weeds and thorns.

What was once a thriving city will become a home for wild animals. Homes, the palace, the places of security will become abandoned as judgment unfolds on Jerusalem and Judah.

## III. Judgment will end and the blessing of God will pour out upon His people (Isa. 32:15-20).

Isaiah now gives encouragement that God's judgment will not last forever.

When at once the people are living in belief, God will overrun His people with His Spirit, where God will give them one heart and a new spirit within them (Ezek. 11:19; cf. Ezek. 36:26-27; 37:14; 39:29). This stands in great contrast to the spirit of deep sleep that Jehovah had poured out on the unbelieving people (29:10), the fierceness of His anger (42:25; Hos. 5:10; Ezek. 7:8).

This will be a reversal of the nation's present direction both spiritually and physically. The land which had become a wilderness will now become a fruitful land again, something so luxurious because it "signifies the rich and true blessings that God through His Spirit gives to renewed mankind" (Young 400).