#### <u>OBSERVATION</u> <u>INTERPRETATION</u> <u>APPLICATION</u>

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#### "REVELATION SONG" - Phillips, Craig & Dean

1 Worthy is the, Lamb who was slain, Holy, Holy, is He. Sing a new song, to Him who sits on Heaven's Mercy Seat [Repeat 2x]

[Chorus:] Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lord God Almighty, Who was, and is, and is to come. With all creation I sing: Praise to the King of Kings! You are my everything, And I will adore You...! Yeah!

- 2 Clothed in rainbows, of living color, Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder. Blessing and honor, strength and Glory and power be To You the Only Wise King, Yeah [Repeat Chorus:]
- 3 Filled with wonder, Awestruck wonder At the mention of Your Name. Jesus, Your Name is Power, Breath, and Living Water. Such a marvelous mystery Yeah... [Chorus:] [Chorus (Repeat at a cappella)]

#### GENERAL OUTLINE OF ISAIAH: Referred to as the "Fifth Gospel" since the third century!

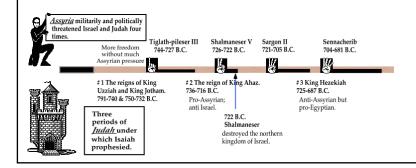
Possible date of kings reign" - Uzziah, - 792-740; Jotham, - 750-736; Ahaz, - 735-720 Northern Kingdom of Israel falls to Assyria in 722BC; Hezekiah, - 715-699/686; Manasseh – 687-642

Isaiah's time of prophecy - About a minimum of 40 years and possibly more than 60 years!

In the tenth year of Nabopolassar (616 BC) the Babylonians defeated the Assyrian army.

Cyrus takes Babylon. In October (539 BC), the Persian king Cyrus took Babylon.

- I. THE ASSYRIAN PERIOD CONFLICT AND VICTORY (Isa 1-39)
  - A. PROPHECIES CONCERNING JUDAH AND JERUSALEM (Isa 1-12)
  - B. PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE NATIONS (Isa 13-27)
  - C. DELIVERANCE FOUND NOT IN EGYPT, BUT IN THE LORD (Isa 28-35)
  - D. HISTORICAL INTERLUDE (Isa 36-39)
- II. THE BABYLONIAN PERIOD HOPE FOR TROUBLED TIMES (Isa 40-66)
  - A. THE ONE TRUE GOD VERSUS IDOLS (<u>Isa 40-48</u>)
  - B. LORD'S SERVANT WILL BRING SALVATION THROUGH SUFFERING (Isa 49-57)
  - C. THE FUTURE GLORY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE, THE NEW ZION (Isa 58-66)



<u>Isaiah – Bible Timeline</u>		
739	Isaiah Complains of Zion's	Isaiah 1 - 5
BC	Corruption	
739 BC	Isaiah's Vision and Commission	<u>Isaiah 6</u>
735 BC	Isaiah's Prophesy of Immanuel	<u>Isaiah 7</u>
734 BC	Uriah/Zechariah Verification	Isaiah 8
730 BC	Isaiah Prophesies a Child Is Born	<u>Isaiah 9</u>
730 BC	Isaiah Prophesies Judgments Upon Israel	Isaiah 9:8
730 BC	Isaiah Prophesies Judgment on Assyria	<u>Isaiah 10</u>
730 BC	Isaiah Prophesies The Root of Jesse	<u>Isaiah 11</u>
730 BC	Isaiah's Joyful Thanksgiving	Isaiah 12
725 BC	Isaiah Prophesies against the Nations	<u>Isaiah 13 -</u> <u>22</u>
725 BC	Isaiah's Valley of Vision	Isaiah 22
725 BC	Isaiah's Burden of Tyre	Isaiah 23
725 BC	<b>Devastation on the Earth</b>	Isaiah 24
725 BC	Isaiah's Songs of Praise	
725 BC	Isaiah's Songs of Praise	<u>Isaiah 25 -</u> 27
<b>725 BC</b> 725 BC	Isaiah's Songs of Praise Isaiah's Further Warnings	Isaiah 25 -
	C	<u>Isaiah 25 -</u> <u>27</u> <u>Isaiah 28 -</u>
725 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings Isaiah Prophesies a King	<u>Isaiah 25 -</u> <u>27</u> <u>Isaiah 28 -</u> <u>32</u>
725 BC 725 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings Isaiah Prophesies a King Shall Reign Isaiah Declares God's	<u>Isaiah 25 -</u> <u>27</u> <u>Isaiah 28 -</u> <u>32</u> <u>Isaiah 32</u> <u>Isaiah 33</u>
725 BC 725 BC 725 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings Isaiah Prophesies a King Shall Reign Isaiah Declares God's Judgments Isaiah Declares the Joyful	Isaiah 25 -       27       Isaiah 28 -       32       Isaiah 32       Isaiah 33,       34
725 BC 725 BC 725 BC 725 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings Isaiah Prophesies a King Shall Reign Isaiah Declares God's Judgments Isaiah Declares the Joyful Will Flourish in Zion Hezekiah's Illness and	Isaiah 25 - 27 Isaiah 28 - 32 Isaiah 32 Isaiah 33, 34 Isaiah 35 2 Kings 20, Isaiah 38 2 Kings 20:12,
725 BC 725 BC 725 BC 725 BC 712 BC 711 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings Isaiah Prophesies a King Shall Reign Isaiah Declares God's Judgments Isaiah Declares the Joyful Will Flourish in Zion Hezekiah's Illness and Healing Hezekiah Shows Treasures	Isaiah 25 - 27 Isaiah 28 - 32 Isaiah 32 Isaiah 32 Isaiah 35 2 Kings 20, Isaiah 38 2 Kings 20:12, Isaiah 39
725 BC 725 BC 725 BC 725 BC 712 BC 711 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings Isaiah Prophesies a King Shall Reign Isaiah Declares God's Judgments Isaiah Declares the Joyful Will Flourish in Zion Hezekiah's Illness and Healing Hezekiah Shows Treasures Isaiah Prophesies Captivity and Restoration	Isaiah 25 - 27 Isaiah 28 - 32 Isaiah 32 Isaiah 33, 34 Isaiah 35 2 Kings 20, Isaiah 38 2 Kings 20:12, Isaiah 39 Isaiah 40 - 66
725 BC 725 BC 725 BC 725 BC 712 BC 711 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings Isaiah Prophesies a King Shall Reign Isaiah Declares God's Judgments Isaiah Declares the Joyful Will Flourish in Zion Hezekiah's Illness and Healing Hezekiah Shows Treasures Isaiah Prophesies Captivity	Isaiah 25 - 27 Isaiah 28 - 32 Isaiah 32 Isaiah 33, 34 Isaiah 35 2 Kings 20, Isaiah 38 2 Kings 20:12, Isaiah 39 Isaiah 40 -

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# Judgment on the Whole Earth

#### INTRODUCTION – Chapter 24:

In chapter twenty-four, Isaiah looks at the dark days that are coming upon the earth (*erets* – used 16 times in this chapter). The days during the Great Tribulation. The days when God's wrath is to be poured out upon the earth. The day when God is going to judge the earth for its iniquity.

Putting together the whole picture from passages throughout the Bible, we know that God had determined seventy, 7-year cycles for the nation of Israel, and the city of Jerusalem. That 69 of those 7-year cycles were fulfilled. From the going forth of the commandment, to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, to the time that the Messiah came, was to be 69, sevens, or 483 years. That Now that leaves a 7-year cycle yet to be fulfilled. A future 7-year period in which God will deal again with the nation of Israel, even as God has dealt with them as His people in the past. The last part of this seven-year period of time, will be the time that is known in the scripture as the Great Tribulation. Many of the prophets spoke of this period of Great Tribulation. Daniel made reference to it, as well as Amos, as well as Nahum, as well as Isaiah, as well as Jeremiah, all throughout the Old Testament. There is much references to this seven-year period of the Great Tribulation, especially the last three and a half years. It's a short period as far as man's history is concerned, but it is so packed with the judgments of God, that there, it takes up a major portion of the scripture.

The majority of the book of Revelation, centers on this last half of the seven-year period of time. From Revelation, chapters 6-18, it focuses on just this three-and-a-half-year period of history. The events are so momentous, that much of the scripture is devoted to it. Jesus spoke about it in many places, especially in *Matthew chapter 24* and *Luke*, *chapter 21*. There is this Great Tribulation in which the earth is to be judged by God, and the wrath of God is to be poured out upon the earth, in cataclysmic judgment. Such as the world has never experienced before or will ever experience again.

Isaiah chapter 24, deals with this great period of God's judgment that will precede the glorious reign of Jesus Christ. The coming again of the Messiah to reign. Jesus, in talking about the Great Tribulation said, "And immediately after the tribulation of those days, shall they see the sign of the Son of Man, coming with clouds, and great glory." In fact, the coming of Jesus Christ, will bring an end to the Great Tribulation.

The Great Tribulation will end in that battle of Armageddon, which you've heard much about, which will culminate the Great Tribulation period.

It will all lead up to the battle of Armageddon, and then, the return of Jesus Christ, in glory. So here, as we get into chapter 24, he tells us what's going to happen upon the earth during this Great Tribulation.

vs. 1-3 In the book of Revelation, chapter six, as the Lord opens up this scroll that has the seven seals, as He opens the first four seals, there is a corresponding judgment of God upon the earth. We read that in the opening of the first four seals, that one fourth of the earth's population will be destroyed. Amazing! Over a billion people will be destroyed in just the beginning of this tribulation period. Later on, in the book of Revelation, as these demonic hoards are unleashed upon the earth, some two hundred million, by these, one third of the remaining population of the earth will be destroyed, or another billion people. So that's just in two of the events, of which there are many, many events. So, this Great Tribulation period will pretty much empty the earth of inhabitants and wipe out mankind. There will be very few that will survive the Great Tribulation period. Very few shall escape!

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Isa 24:1 Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, Distorts its surface And scatters abroad its inhabitants.

Isa 24:2 And it shall be (inescapable!): As with the people, so with the priest; As with the servant, 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.

Isa 24:3 The land shall be entirely emptied and utterly plundered, For the LORD has spoken this word.

Isa 24:4 The earth mourns and fades away,
The world languishes and fades away; The
haughty people of the earth languish.
Isa 24:5 The earth is also defiled under its
inhabitants, Because they have transgressed the
laws, Changed the ordinance, Broken the
everlasting covenant.
Isa 24:6 Therefore the curse has devoured the
earth, And those who dwell in it are desolate.
Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are
burned, And few men are left.

Isa 24:8 The mirth of the tambourine ceases, The noise of the jubilant ends, The joy of the harp ceases.

Isa 24:9 They shall not drink wine with a song; Strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.

Isa 24:10 The city of confusion is broken down; Every house is shut up, so that none may go in.

Isa 24:7 The new wine fails, the vine languishes, All the merry-hearted sigh.

vs. 1-3 Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty: Isaiah invites us to behold, to look upon God's judgment. The ultimate fulfillment of this will be during the Great Tribulation (Mat 24:21-22), which will immediately precede the second coming of Jesus Christ (Mat\_24:29-30); (Rev. 6:15-17). During the Great Tribulation, the earth will not be literally empty, but will seem empty in many places. More than one fourth and then one-third will die in just two of the judgments of the Great Tribulation (Rev. 9:15-21). The judgments pronounced upon the various countries and nations in those chapters are drawn together here into a focal point. The specific divine judgments described there become here the general judgment upon the nations, which will take place when the Lord Jesus Christ with His Church will return to this earth. As with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master: In these comparisons, Isaiah shows that no one will escape ( high positions - priest . . . master . . . mistress . . . seller; or low positions - borrower . . . debtor). When the judgment of the Great Tribulation comes, it will be complete in its scope! This passage reinforces the idea that the judgments of the LORD during the Great Tribulation will be universal in their scope, and that no class of people will be immune from the general judgment of the LORD. God will remove as His redeemed before this period of Great Tribulation. 1Th\_5:9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

vs. 4-6 The earth mourns and fades away: The earth mourns because in the Great Tribulation, the earth will be terribly afflicted by the judgments of the LORD. Rev. 8:7-13 describes the terrible effect of the judgments of the LORD upon the earth. Because of man's sin, wickedness and rebellion against the LORD. The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants. Man has defiled the earth with his sin and great wickedness, so the earth must endure some of the righteous judgment of God also. God is greater than His creation. God is separate from His creation, and when the earth fades away, when the world fades away, the LORD God will remain unchanged. Because they have transgressed the laws: The idea of transgression is to step over the line that God has established. God has set boundaries for us, but many of us don't want to see or respect God's boundaries. Because they have . . . changed the ordinance (torah-the law of God): Mankind is ripe for judgment because we have changed God's word into something "lighter," into something "more acceptable." Because they have ... broken the everlasting covenant: God has entered into covenant with man, and man has turned his back on His covenant. Instead of receiving God's everlasting covenant, man wants to make up his own way with God! For all these reasons, the curse has devoured the earth. Man's hardened, repeated rejection of God will bring the ultimate judgment: the Great Tribulation.

<u>vs.7-13</u> All the merry-hearted sigh: When the LORD brings the judgment of the Great Tribulation, there will be no more "partying as usual." The days for eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage (<u>Mat\_24:38</u>) are for before the Great Tribulation. When the Great Tribulation comes, the noise of the jubilant ends, the joy of the harp ceases.

<u>vs. 1-3</u> Is your escape clause firm in your belief in Jesus Crist in contract with the Lord, if so, one need not worry! We need to be sure!

vs. 4-6 God's judgement is coming on the whole earth Because they have transgressed the laws.

Changed the ordinance, Broken the everlasting covenant. But the church, the believers are not appointed to wrath, but will be taken out in the Rapture of the church. If that occurred right now, are you sure you would be in that group that is Raptured? How about your family, close friends?

<u>vs. 7-13</u> Here is an awesome picture of the earth during the Great Tribulation - no joy, no mirth – stricken with destruction!

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Isa 24:11 There is a cry for wine in the streets, All joy is darkened, The mirth of the land is gone.

Isa 24:12 In the city desolation is left, And the gate is stricken with destruction.

Isa 24:13 When it shall be thus in the midst of the land among the people, It shall <u>be like the shaking of an olive tree</u>, <u>Like the gleaning of grapes when the vintage is done</u>.

Isa 24:14 They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing; For the majesty of the LORD They shall cry aloud from the sea.

Isa 24:15 Therefore glorify the LORD in the dawning light, The name of the LORD God of Israel in the coastlands of the sea.

Isa 24:16 From the ends of the earth we have heard songs: "Glory to the righteous!" But I said, "I am ruined, ruined! Woe to me! The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously, Indeed, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously."

Isa 24:17 Fear and the pit and the snare Are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth.
Isa 24:18 And it shall be That he who flees from the noise of the fear Shall fall into the pit, And he who comes up from the midst of the pit Shall be caught in the snare; For the windows from on high are open, And the foundations of the earth are shaken.

Isa 24:19 The earth is violently broken, The earth is split open, The earth is shaken exceedingly.

Isa 24:20 The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, And shall totter like a hut; <u>Its</u> <u>transgression shall be heavy upon</u> it, And it will fall, and not rise again.

<u>vs.7-13 (continued)</u> During the Great Tribulation, God's judgment will bring destruction everywhere: *In the city desolation is left, and the gate is stricken with destruction*. The judgment will be so complete that the cities will look like olive trees bare (*like the shaking of an olive tree*) and grape vines striped of everything (*like the gleaning of grapes when the vintage is done*).

vs. 14-16 The glory of God and the woe of man. They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing: Even in the midst of great judgment, God has His own that praise Him. Before the Great Tribulation, God will remove all His people; but many come to trust in Jesus during the Great Tribulation, and these will praise Him in the midst of judgment (Rev 7:9-14). Why do they praise Him? Because even in His judgments, or perhaps especially in His judgments, the LORD shows His majesty, He shows His glory. The godly can see the goodness, the greatness, and the glory of God even in judgment, even when the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously.

Rev 16:7 And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments." Rev 19:2 For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."

vs. 17-18 The character of God's judgment. - The judgment of the LORD will always be completed. O inhabitant of the earth: The Book of Revelation, writing of this time of Great Tribulation, makes constant reference to those who dwell on the earth (Rev 3:10; Rev 6:10; Rev 11:10; Rev 13:12, 14). This is in contrast to those who dwell in heaven (Rev 13:6), who are seated with Jesus in the heavenly places (Eph 2:6). Where do you sit? Where do you live? Are you an inhabitant of the earth, or do you sit with Jesus in heavenly places? Fear . . . pit . . . snare: The judgment of the LORD is inescapable. If escape the fear, you will fall into the pit. If you escape the pit, you will fall into the snare. God's judgment has enough back-up plans to catch everyone. The only way to escape the judgment of God is to satisfy it, and the only place God's judgment was ever satisfied was on the cross.

vs. 19-20 The intensity of the judgment of the LORD touches everything. The earth is violently broken, the earth is split open: The Bible describes some of this judgment during the Great Tribulation (Rev\_6:13-14), and tells us that a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth (Rev\_16:18). No wonder Isaiah says, the earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard!

<u>vs. 7-13 (continued)</u> Judgment on the whole earth with very few survivors! How sad! No one should ever consider going through this. May we be encouraged to get the Gospel out — God's provision for an escape clause from this!

<u>vs. 14-16</u> We see a Godly remnant who are alive. The church has been removed, but we will see there, likely through martyrdom will turn to the Lord. They will lift up their voices and sing to the Lord! LORD, You have to do what you have to do, in order to destroy the wickedness so that the beauty of the coming Kingdom on earth may occur. God, You win, regardless of the cost!

<u>v. 17-18</u> There shall be no fleeing or hiding from God's judgment. We see there is no repentance even in going from the seals to the bowl judgments. May we get the message out – "Now is the time to come to the LORD!"

<u>vs. 19-20</u> The earth is going to be moved, "reel to and fro". It's going to totter like a hut. There'll be this gigantic earthquake, that will just shake up everything upon the earth. Not just a local earthquake that only effects a small little segment. This is going to be the whole earth shaking.

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Isa 24:21 It shall come to pass in that day That the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth. (who followed the antichrist)

Isa 24:22 They will be gathered together, As prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison; After many days (1,000 years) they will be punished.

Isa 24:23 Then the moon will be disgraced And the sun ashamed; For the LORD of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem And before His elders, gloriously.

vs. 21-23 The judgment of the LORD will touch everyone. The LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones: One of the more frustrating aspects of life is to see the rich, powerful wicked escape the present consequences of their sin. But in His great judgment during the Great Tribulation, no one will be able to buy a high-priced lawyer to escape judgment, or bribe a politician to come out without being hurt. Isaiah probably is speaking of something even higher than the exalted ones of this earth. Some believe that the phrase the host of exalted ones refers to rebellious angels that are judged at the end of the age, and imprisoned in the pit until the final rebellion at the end of the Millennium (Rev\_20:1-10). The NIV translates the host of exalted ones as the powers in the heavens above. The kings of the earth . . . will be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit: Under God's great and final judgment, everyone's status on this earth will mean nothing. Even the moon will be disgraced and the sun ashamed. No degree of earthly greatness will help man on that day, and no degree of heavenly greatness will help an angelic being on that day! Instead, the LORD of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem and before His elders, gloriously! At the end of the Great Tribulation, God will usher in a thousand years of His glorious reign over all the earth from Mount Zion and in Jerusalem. God's purpose in judgment isn't simple vengeance or vindictiveness, it is to bring about a glorious new world.

#### **SUMMARY – Chapter 24:**

The purpose of God's judgment is never simply to judge. Again, God says in His word that I'm not willing that any should perish, but that all would come to repentance. He takes no joy in the death of the wicked. He really judges only when He is forced to judge. But He will judge everything and every person who stands between Him and the establishment of that eternal reign of Christ. He will judge in order to bring forth the beautiful thing that He desires, the majestic thing that He desires, and that's not to find ourselves in any way resisting Him in accomplishing that because He will prevail. If you're not yet a Christian, God is not willing that any should perish but that all would come to repentance. We must come to Christ! The only escape from the wrath that our sins deserve individually and the wrath of God that is going to one day come upon the earth is our faith in Christ, because the Bible says that God has not appointed us, as Christians, to wrath because Jesus bore the wrath our sin deserved, upon the cross. Chapter 24 is known as Isaiah's apocalypse, the little apocalypse of Isaiah. It is an incredible Old Testament description of what we know, and have a greater revelation of in the New Testament, that of the coming Great Tribulation. And just as every prophecy came to pass as concerning those nations that are described in *chapters 13-23*. Every one of those prophecies came to pass, **this prophecy will come to pass as well.** And the importance of being on the right side of God. And there is only one step necessary in order to be on the right side of God and that is to do the single greatest thing that we can do to bless and to honor the heart of God. That is to put our faith in His Son, that He sent into this world to die, that we might be forgiven and that we might be saved. There is no greater way to honor God than to put my faith in His Son. There is no greater way to poke Him in the eye or to dishonor Him or disgrace Him, than to refuse His Son, that He sent into the world to provide us with the forgiveness of sin. So there is life and death in the room related to this. You can't change the world. You can't change the nation. You can't change your mother or your father, your neighbor, your son, your daughter. You can't change anyone. You can't make decisions for anyone. You can only make a decision for yourself, related to Christ. Choose Christ today! So you will know that you will not have any part in all that we have just described here. And that, is God's desire for you, as well!

vs. 21-23 Now these host of exalted ones that are on high, are a reference to the demonic forces that are in control of the world. Men guided by these demonic forces. Paul the apostle said, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, and spiritual wickedness in high places." He's talking about these spirit entities, spirit forms, which will be punished. God's righteous judgment is coming and it will be surely effective and complete! May be all be enforcers during the coming kingdom and not victims!

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Praise to God! The Kingdom Age - God Will Swallow Up Death Forever

Isa 25:1 O LORD, <u>You are my God. I will</u> exalt You, I will praise Your name, For You have done wonderful things; Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

- Isa 25:2 For You have made a city a ruin, A fortified city a ruin, A palace of foreigners to be a city no more; It will never be rebuilt.

  Isa 25:3 Therefore the strong people will glorify You; The city of the terrible nations will fear You.
- Isa 25:4 For You have been a strength to the poor, A strength to the needy in his distress, A refuge from the storm, A shade from the heat; For the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

Isa 25:5 You will reduce the noise of aliens, As heat in a dry place; As heat in the shadow of a cloud, The song of the terrible ones will be diminished.

<u>INTRODUCTION – CHAPTER 25:</u> Chapters 25-27 are a little break from the prophecy of coming judgment, and begin to detail **what is known as the Kingdom Age**. The next event on the prophecy calendar, as we sit here now, is the Rapture of the church, where God takes Christians up into heaven. He then begins the Great Tribulation period, which is a seven year period of this judgment on the earth. At the end of the seven years, Jesus returns with for His Second Coming with us. He comes to the earth, heading to the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, by way of Bozrah in Edom (*Isaiah 63:1*) and the occurrence of the Battle of Armageddon. Upon setting foot upon the Mount of Olives, He then establishes the one-thousand-year reign on the earth. Then following that thousand-year reign of Christ on the earth, there is a final rebellion against God, which is put down. Then ultimately there is the White Throne judgment and a new heaven and new earth.

- <u>v. 1</u> Praising God for what He has done. *O LORD*, *You are my God*: Knowing that the *LORD* the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God revealed in and by Jesus Christ is our *God* makes us want to praise Him! When someone or something other than the *LORD* is our *God*, we are guilty of idolatry. *I will exalt You, I will praise Your name*: The worshipper here makes a *decision* to praise God (*I will*). Worship is never to be just a feeling, even if it is an intense feeling. We are to worship God with a decision. *For You have done wonderful things*: When we think about all the *wonderful things* the LORD has done, it is pretty easy to make the decision to worship the LORD. God wants our worship to be filled with thought and remembrance of God's great works, not only an emotional response. *Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth*: When we remember the greatness and permanence of God's Word, it makes us what to praise Him. What is more reliable, more everlasting, more enduring than the Word of God?
- <u>vs. 2-3</u> Praising God <u>for</u> His **righteous judgment**. *For You have made a city a ruin*: We can worship God for His judgment, because we have confidence in His fairness. As was the case with Sodom and Gomorrah, God will never make *a city a ruin* unless the judgment is deserved, and God has made provision for the righteous.

Which **city** is referred to? No specific city, but in reality every city. The righteous judgment of God has two effects. First, **the strong people will glorify You**. The people of the LORD see His work and glorify Him. Second, **the city of the terrible nations will fear You**. The unrighteous fear God when they see His righteous judgment.

<u>vs. 4-5</u> Praising God <u>for</u> His goodness to the weak. For You have been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy: God is worthy of our praise because He brings strength to the poor and needy! We can praise God because He is a refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat, and even the strangers (aliens) are blessed by His goodness. God will even quiet the song of the terrible ones!

- v. 1 The Kingdom Age is going to be all about praise! We trust we will get even a better voice for worshipping Him with our new bodies!
- vs. 2-3 Reasons for praising God in the Kingdom age! Here looking at the whole earth as a fortified city, because of God's judgment, the palace of foreigners, will be no more and will not ever be rebuilt. The strong people will glorify You for what it will bring almost a complete end of open rebellion against God and wickedness.
- vs. 4-5 Here there is praise to the LORD for His protection of a remnant of righteous people who survived the Great Tribulation. Following the Rapture of the church, there will be a lot of people who were witnessed to, and now they turn to the LORD, likely being martyred. Those Israelites to be sheltered in Petra.

<u>OBSERVATION</u> <u>INTERPRETATION</u> <u>APPLICATION</u>

Monday 7:00pm, H 112 (1st floor, backside of the High School, facing Mac Arthur, near the east corner, adjacent to the High School office), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – <a href="mailto:Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221">Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221</a>; email – <a href="mailto:ptwente@gmail.com">ptwente@gmail.com</a> For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <a href="mailto:www.ptwente.com">www.ptwente.com</a> Click on "Bible Studies" on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

Isa 25:6 And in this mountain The LORD of hosts will make for all people A feast of choice pieces, A feast of wines on the lees, Of fat things full of marrow, Of well-refined wines on the lees.

Isa 25:7 And He will destroy on this mountain The surface of the covering cast over all people, And the veil that is spread over all nations.

Isa 25:8 He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces; The rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken.

v. 6 Praising God for what He will do. A glorious feast for God's people. In this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all people a feast: In a number of places, the Bible speaks of what is often called the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Rev 19:9 says, Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb! According to Isa 25:6, we might say that this great feast takes place on earth, not in heaven. And what a feast it will be! A feast of choice pieces, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of well-refined wines on the lees. For the God's people, this will be the "victory banquet" or the "awards banquet" when after the final battle is over! Jesus is really looking forward to this banquet. He said to His disciples at the Last Supper, (Mat 26:29). In this, Jesus spoke of His longing expectation for the day when He would take communion with His people at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Jesus is excited about this event; are you?

vs. 7-8 The destruction of evil. What will the LORD destroy? The veil that is spread over all nations. There is a veil that is spread over all nations that keeps them from seeing God, loving God, and obeying God. In this glorious day, the LORD will destroy that veil. In the New Testament, Paul speaks of Israel being blinded by a veil: But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart (2Co 3:15). In Isaiah's day, it was more apparent that the nations were veiled. In Paul's day, it was more apparent that Israel was veiled. But for both the nations and for Israel, the remedy is the same: Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away (2Co 3:16). The LORD will also destroy death: He will swallow up death forever. The day will come when death is powerless. Death was introduced by Adam's rebellion (Gen 2:16-17), and will one day be completely eliminated by God. Knowing this, the Apostle Paul looked forward to this day. He proclaimed in 1Co 15:54: Death is swallowed up in victory. This will be true for every believer when death is defeated by resurrection. A resurrected body is not a resuscitated corpse. It is a new order of life that will never die again. Isaiah's triumphant declaration, He will swallow death up forever! And the LORD God will wipe away tears from all faces: How much more glorious could the tender mercy of God be? It isn't just that He takes away the things that made us sad, or even that He gives us a handkerchief to dry our eyes and blow our nose. Instead, He gently and lovingly wipes away all tears! He will take away from all the earth: Now, we need the rebuke of His people. If God did not rebuke and correct us, we could drift further and further from Him. But there will come a day when we are no longer troubled by sin, no longer in a place to rebel. In that glorious day, the rebuke of His people He will take away. Thank God for that coming day! Thank God for His faithful rebuke until then!

 $\underline{v}$ . 6 Here is praise to the LORD for all of the good things that are going to be plentiful during the Kingdom Age. Money now available for feeding the people, instead of being spent on war. What a day that will be!

vs. 7-8 Here is the destroying of the spiritual blindness that's been spread over all nations! There will be no spiritual ignorance during the Kingdom Age! Satan will be bound completely. It's going to be a season of unhindered spiritual clarity for people. No spiritual warfare! No resistance at all for spiritual growth and understanding for either the Jew or the Gentile. That veil that still exists today in Israel will be removed!

2Co 3:12-18 Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech—[13] unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away. [14] But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. [15] But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. [16] Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. [17] Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. [18] But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2Co 4:3-4 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, [4] whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

<u>OBSERVATION</u> <u>INTERPRETATION</u> <u>APPLICATION</u>

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Isa 25:9 And it will be said in that day:
"Behold, this is our God; We have
waited for Him, and He will save us.
This is the LORD; We have waited for
Him; We will be glad and rejoice in His
salvation."

Isa 25:10 For on this mountain the hand of the LORD will rest, And Moab shall be trampled down under Him, As straw is trampled down for the refuse heap.

Isa 25:11 And He will spread out His hands in their midst As a swimmer reaches out to swim, And He will bring down their pride Together with the trickery of their hands.

Isa 25:12 The fortress of the high fort of your walls He will bring down, lay low, And bring to the ground, down to the dust.

<u>v. 9</u> The testimony of God's people. *Behold, this is our God:* We will proclaim it then because we have proclaimed it now. We are those who were unafraid to confess Jesus before men on earth, and we will be blessed to hear Him confess us before our Father in heaven (<u>Luk\_12:8</u>). We have waited for Him, and He will save us: How great it is to wait on the LORD, and to see Him bring His salvation! God often seems distant or cruel when He compels us to wait on Him, but His ways really are best, and will be shown to be the best. We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation: If it is our salvation - a salvation of our own making, of our own creation, then there is nothing to be glad and rejoice in. But since it is His salvation, there is everything to be glad and rejoice in! And it will be said in that day: Each one of these things - confessing He is our God, the fulfillment of patient waiting, and rejoicing in His salvation - each of these will be ultimately fulfilled in that day. But they can be substantially fulfilled right now! We can praise God for these things right now! And as we do, we bring some of the glory of that day to pass in our lives right now.

<u>vs. 10-12</u> The LORD resolves all things. For on this mountain the hand of the LORD will rest: The LORD will settle His hand of favor, power, and glory on Mount Zion. After the Great Tribulation, when Jesus Christ reigns from Jerusalem, the whole creation will know that the hand of the LORD does rest on this mountain. The powerful and gracious presence of God, often signified in Scripture by God's hand) shall have its constant and settled abode; it shall not move from place to place. And Moab will be trampled down: In that day, Jesus will rule the nations with all authority and righteousness (<u>Psa 2:8-12</u>). God will reach out (As a swimmer reaches out to swim) and bring low every proud, rebelling heart. Those who oppose His rule He will bring to the ground, down to the dust.

v. 9 There will be this return of joy and rejoicing to His people on the earth. Today the earth is not a happy place for Christians in most of the world. Tremendous deep, ruthless, demonic, persecution against Christians. This is a tough place of Christians to be alive. But then, "Behold, this is our God; We have waited for Him, and He will save us. This is the LORD; We have waited for Him; We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

vs. 10-12 God is going to judge all of His enemies. In the Kingdom Age, all of His enemies are going to be completely subdued, which means our enemies will be completely subdued, too! Imagine this Kingdom Age – no more wickedness, no more rebellion against God. Plenty of food and nourishment! Spiritual vitality! No more death! No more of man's pride and persecution against the righteous. What a beautiful description.