

# Let's Worship God

8th-13th April 2024

Isaiah



Isaiah

# Isaiah

## **Monday - Isaiah 33:17-18 - A Terrifying Prospect**

Chapter 33 is looking to the imminent Assyrian invasion of Judah. At the time this was written, already the northern kingdom of Israel had been destroyed by the Assyrians, and they were marching southward. They would be invading Judah and going on into Egypt. These Assyrians were scary people. They were militarily very strong, and they were a very cruel people. It seemed nothing could stop them. Things would go badly for a while. Almost all the land of Judah would be conquered, and the great waves of the Assyrian military would beat up against the walls there at Jerusalem. And as we shall see in time to come, the king of Assyria, through his great officers, taunts Hezekiah. The emissaries of the king of Assyria call out to surrender, for there's no use in trying to stop the Assyrians. No one's been able to stop them before.

As the Assyrians poured down from the north, more and more people fled as refugees into the strongest walled fortress there was, Jerusalem, packing it tight, shut up within the walls, feeling perhaps that they were trapped like rats. There was no hope for them. All was closing in around them. All they heard around them was preparation for war. The king and his officers sent out people who would be counting up the manpower, finding out how many fighting men there were. There would be ones who would be weighing out the metal for weapons and weighing out what was left of gold and silver, for payment for soldiers and for weaponry. Then there were those who counted the towers, who were going around inspecting the walls and the battlements to see that everything was made as secure as possible. As the people saw this, surely it alarmed them, surely it made them fearful. But then God sent them this word through Isaiah as their hearts were terrified.

Jehovah assures them here, perhaps months before, how things would be. They would see the king and his beauty in royal robes and in their midst, joining with them in the gladness of victory, instead of being trapped and hemmed in by those walls, packed in with other people whose fear they could smell. They could and would return to their homes. All the preparation for war, all the gloomy fears of being subjugated by a foreign power, they would be but a memory, an increasingly distant one, as God blessed them. How kind God was to them! How gracious Jehovah was to them!

### **Questions**

1. What is the situation of this prophecy?
2. What does God promise them?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks that God cares about the fears of His people.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. Isaiah 33:22

**Praise: Psalm 14 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## **Tuesday - Isaiah 33:17-19 - The King in His Beauty**

God here, through Isaiah, is speaking of a far greater glory. Hezekiah and deliverance in his day pointed to Christ, the promised King. He is the ultimate King, that the true Israel of God was promised that they would see in His beauty. He is the King now, the great King who reigns over all things unto His Father's glory, unto His people's good. While He does so, He delivers His own people from a more evil enemy than the Assyrians and a more certain and everlasting destruction - that which comes about because of sin. He does it not by the force of arms, not by a vast and glittering treasury, but by His own life, by His own atoning death, and by His glorious and victorious resurrection.

If you know Him, if by grace you have been drawn to Him, His beauty and His glory shine about Him. What an atonement He accomplished! Does He not now shine forth to you? And He will more and more gloriously as better and better you know Him. Am I wrong in saying that He is altogether lovely in your sight?

Imagine those people long ago, when they were delivered from the Assyrians. Imagine the joy. Imagine them returning home. But there is something far more glorious here. For us the far-off land is in sight. We are seeing ourselves being delivered from the remaining sin within us. We see ourselves, by God's grace, being transformed. God has put eternity into our hearts; we see that place where there is no sin, no pain, and no parting. Don't we long to be there already? Just like the people of Isaiah's day, when the power of Assyria is smashed, the terror that they could taste was suddenly just gone. So it is for all the people of God who see the King in His beauty and hold title to and can see in the distance the land which is very far off. All fear is gone. Why? Because the great enemy is destroyed. And the last enemy has no more power. That greatest of all enemies, of course, is sin. Christ has lived for us, has died for us. And in atoning fully, is now resurrected for us. We will know His love in a far greater way when we see the King someday, finally in His full beauty, when we attain the celestial city, the land that is afar off.

### **Questions**

1. What else does this passage speak about?
2. What has Christ delivered us from?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks for the beauty of our King.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. Isaiah 33:22

**Praise: Psalm 15 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## **Wednesday - Isaiah 33:20 - Look Upon Zion**

What is Zion? It is Jerusalem. It is the city of David. It is where the temple is. It is the place of the appointed feasts. God points the people to look to the place that speaks of good things yet to be accomplished.

Christ dwells amid His people. Paul talks about the fact that we are all living stones built upon the foundation of the prophets and apostles, with Jesus Christ as the head cornerstone (Ephesians 2:19-22), built up into the true spiritual temple of all times. We are the temple of God. The old temple, which was a picture of what was true and eternal had within it the holy place and the most holy place. In the most holy place there was the mercy seat where blood was shed once a year by the high priest to atone for the sin of the people. That all points to Jesus Christ, the great High Priest. That all points to Him as the perfect and sufficient sacrifice. He is the true lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world, as John the Baptist declares in John 1:29, 36.

God tells them to look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts. The Passover feast spoke of God's true deliverance which would come. They looked back to the shedding of the blood of the lamb, the blood being put on the doorposts, and the angel of death passing over those houses that were covered by the blood. All this speaks of Christ and His blood shed, so that God passes over our sin because it's already paid for, atoned for by the blood of Jesus Christ. Pentecost was the festival of first fruits. It is speaking of the coming of the Holy Spirit. He is the first fruits of all the blessings that we receive when we're baptized. Now, it may not be at exactly that same time. It may be at a later time, as normally is the case with our covenant children. Or with adult converts, the Holy Spirit has come to them, and they have His presence officially and outwardly acknowledged and granted and sealed to them in their baptisms.

Zion is established in peace. This was spoken to the people in a time of fear and worry. But here is the promise - you shall see peace. And that's exactly what happened. For after God destroyed the Assyrian attack and broke the power of Assyria, there was peace for a long while. But that is not all that God is saying. The entire city of David, the true Jerusalem, would be at peace, growing and thriving.

### **Questions**

1. What does the Temple tell us about Christ?
2. What does God promise in this verse?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks for Christ's death for His people.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. Isaiah 33:22

**Praise: Psalm 16 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## Thursday - Isaiah 33:20 - The Tabernacle

The imagery that God uses here is of the tabernacle. The tabernacle was initially built under God's direction during the time of Moses, hundreds of years before Isaiah's day. It had been made in order to be portable, because the people at the time of Moses were moving, moving from Egypt and into the land of promise. And after they got there, the temple was not built until the days of King Solomon. Why would God use imagery of the tabernacle, a tent with stakes and cords? Because the people were on the move and would be. This world is not the ultimate home of the people of God. We are all on a trip. We are all on a move to the city which has a permanent foundation, that which is called the New Jerusalem. We're on a pilgrimage. But while on pilgrimage, the city of David would be at peace, the true city of David, growing and thriving. The promise here is that there would be no ultimate destruction of the church of Jesus Christ in their day or in ours. In fact, it would be expanding. Cords would not be broken, even though they would be stretched and lengthened.

The promises here have long term application for us. We are established in peace to God's glory. We no longer look forward to redemption promised. We look back now to redemption, both accomplished by Jesus Christ and applied by His Spirit. We no longer, day by day, must offer animal sacrifices. No. For it is all done in Jesus' perfect life, lived in the place of His people, lived in the place of sinners, and in His atoning death. We see that Jesus has willingly, under the plan of His Father, gone to the cross and legally taken the guilt of sinners. And now by God's grace, His chosen ones have the Holy Spirit come upon and within them, and they believe.

Believers, there are fearsome things around us. We see dangers to the Church of Jesus Christ on the outside. We see dangers within. We see all kinds of possible difficulties for ourselves and for our families with things going on in the world. And perhaps we worry about the church. We worry about God's people. Friends, don't. Don't. The Church of Jesus Christ is safe. God has even yet many arrows to take out the wicked. He can and does destroy those that attempt to touch that which is precious to Him. Even now, Jesus is fulfilling His word: "I will build my church." Take heart, believer. Take heart and continue to live for and speak for Jesus Christ.

### Questions

1. Why does God use the imagery of a tabernacle?
2. Why can we have hope for the Church?

### Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ is building His Church.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. Isaiah 33:22

**Praise: Psalm 17 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## Friday - Isaiah 33:21-22 - King in Zion

We see here at the beginning of verse 21 that the establishment, the foundation, and the basis of the peace and security and further building is found in One Who dwells therein, Who dwells in the midst of all this, the One Who dwells in the midst of His people. This is the God-Man, the Mediator, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ continues to dwell in the midst of His people. He is the one who keeps it safe. He is the one who builds it up. He is like the broad rivers which provide some protection for cities. He is as the broad rivers that provide life for plants and beasts and man.

We see that He is our judge. What does a judge do? Well, he takes those who are innocent and he avenges them and he vindicates them. But how can we be avenged? We who are great sinners, do we not need vengeance put upon us? How can He vindicate us when our own records are only that of sin and filthiness and blood? It is because He is the great High Priest, He has offered the perfect victim - Himself - in the place of sinners. How appropriate for Him to be our judge. He has vindicated us. He has taken the responsibility of His people's sins, and He has taken the appropriate punishment due to the one guilty of them. And as our Judge, He declares us now innocent. 'Who shall bring a charge against God's elect?' asks the apostle Paul in Romans 8:33ff.

He is our lawgiver in that more and more His Word dwells within us and guides us, as His Spirit Who indwells us, makes us more and more holy. He is our King, our sovereign covenant head. He is our almighty defender, Who will suffer no ill upon us whom He loves.

He will save us. He does not say here: He can save us, He could save us, He might save us. He will save us. Oh, what a wonderful word of comfort to the believer, harried by his own weakness, harassed by his own fears, worried and vexed over his remaining sin, taunted by the accusations of Satan, and by the words of wickedness from unbelievers. When his own sins seem to overwhelm him like great waves, "Christ will save us." It is Jesus' will to save His people from their sin. Not only save them from the consequences but save them from the sin itself!

### Questions

1. How is Christ our Judge?
2. What does Christ save us from?

### Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the salvation found in Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. Isaiah 33:22

**Praise: Psalm 18 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## **Saturday - Isaiah 33:23-24 - Forgiveness**

The Jerusalem of God is safe from our enemies, as we see in verses 23 and 24. Assyria had thought of itself as a great and glorious and fearsome vessel. But everything is falling to pieces. The mast is unable to be strengthened. It could not spread the sail. And the great glory of Assyria is dead in the water. This is what happens to all the enemies of Jesus Christ. They look so proud, they are so bold, they look so powerful, and they become pathetic. In contrast, the godly are brought to triumph after all their fears and anxieties.

We see here that the great plunder is divided. God gives all to all His people - the weak, the crippled, the frightened receive the same blessings at His hand that those who are, in a manner of speaking, naturally brave and strong receive. No longer are folks sick with fear of temporal or eternal disaster; no longer are they disabled by the quite proper terror of the consequences of sin.

We read here that the people who dwell within Zion will be forgiven their iniquity. All that sin and its consequences, the fear of death and the judgment of God that goes along with the sense, the conviction, the awakening to sin, all that's gone. Because sin is forgiven. It is removed by the perfect Priest, who lived perfectly and was preparing the perfect sacrifice. He then went to death on the cross, taking the death that you, believer, deserve. He rose from the dead because death could no longer hold Him, for He had paid off entirely the wages of sin. We are saved not by a righteousness within us. We are saved by a righteousness accomplished by one outside of us. O Christian, this is a wonderful thing to look at, to think upon, to meditate on.

But maybe someone says, I am on the outside of all this. I have been a fool, and I am utterly undone. There is no hope for me. If you will cry out to Him, confess your sin, and cry out to Him to save you, He will not laugh in your face. He will not say that the day of salvation has passed. He will draw you into safety. He will draw you into life. You will be adopted and loved forevermore by the king in Zion.

### **Questions**

1. What is promised in these verses?
2. What will happen to Assyria?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. Isaiah 33:22

**Praise: Psalm 19 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

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If you have any queries please contact - [rpchurchscotland@gmail.com](mailto:rpchurchscotland@gmail.com)