

The Gospel According to John

7-15-2020

1. Last week I taught in part John 11:29-41. Before we complete that study, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.

John Speaks of a Blinded Israel

Joh 12:39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Isaiah said again (*Isa 6:10*),

Joh 12:40 He hath **blinded their eyes**, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

Joh 12:41 These things said Isaiah, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

1. I want to review some of that learned last week and then begin new material at point five on page two.

Doctrine of Light

1. The literal phenomena of light is necessary for us to function effectively on planet earth. Gen 1:3-4

2. Light is used in Scripture for that which brings life. Joh 1:4

3. There are many uses of light in Scripture: **Phos** is the Greek word for light and it appears some 70 times in the New Testament. Several of those uses are:

3.1 It is used as the essence of God. 1Jo 1:5

3.2 It is used of Jesus who came into a world of darkness to save a lost world. Joh 8:12

3.3 It is used of the Word of God. 2Co 4:4

3.4 At point of regeneration the believer is moved from darkness to light. 1Pe 2:9

3.5 Light is used to describe doctrine resident in the soul. Eph 5:8; Psa 119:105

3.6 Doctrine in the soul of the believer is said to be constructed of the armor of light. Rom 13:12

3.7 Light therefore depicts entrance into spiritual maturity. Eph 5:14

4. Let's see what we can learn about the blinding of Israel from one of their greatest prophets.

The Book of Isaiah

1. The book was written by Isaiah in about 700 B.C. from Judah.
2. The grandest of all the Hebrew prophets, Isaiah speaks to the southern Kingdom and its immediate needs while prophesying of the sufferings of Christ and His ultimate victory at the 2nd Advent including specifics concerning His reign during the Millennium.



3. The Hebrew name of Isaiah is Yesha'-yahu, meaning "Yehovah is the source of salvation."

4. It is fitting that his underlying message to God's covenant nation is that salvation will come to them on the basis of divine grace and power and not by their own strength and religious works.

5. The names of Isaiah's children were significant, constant reminders to kings and their subjects of the prophet's message and the importance of listening to him. Wycliffe writes:

"God told Isaiah before he had even married his fiancée that he would have a man-child by her, and He bade him inscribe the child's name on a tablet as a matter of public record before two witnesses of reputation. Maher-shalal-hash-baz, meaning "hasten to the booty, rush to the spoil," was to betoken the successful Assyrian assault upon Damascus and Samaria.

"This assault would crush both those kingdoms before the infant boy would be old enough to utter, "Mummy" or "Daddy," i.e., within three years. This prophecy was fulfilled in the capture of Damascus and the spoiling of Samaria in 732 by Tiglathpileser III. The name of his older son means "a remnant shall return," a promise to the godly in the kingdom of Judah; the name of the younger son, can also be translated "swift is the booty, speedy is the prey."

6. It is believed that Isaiah ministered by word and pen for 60 years or more, from c. 740 to 680 B.C. His call to the prophetic ministry of warning and rebuke came in the year of King Uzziah's death in c. 739 B.C.

Isa 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died (740 B.C.), I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.

Isa 6:2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

Isa 6:3 And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

Isa 6:4 At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

Isa 6:5 "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty."

Isa 6:6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

Isa 6:7 With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."

6.1 Whether he had preached before that event is not certain. He states in the opening verse that he received revelations from God during the reigns of Uzziah (c. 767-740 B.C.), Jotham (c. 740-732 B.C.), Ahaz (c. 732-716 B.C.), and Hezekiah. (c. 716-687 B.C.)

6.2 Yet he must have lived longer to be able to record the death of Sennacherib in c. 681 B.C. and to know the name of the succeeding Assyrian monarch, Esarhaddo. Thus, Isaiah lived on into the reign of Manasseh (c. 687-642 B.C.). Isa 37:38

Isa 37:38 One day, while he (*Sennacherib*) was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisroch, his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer cut him down with the sword, and they escaped to the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son succeeded him as king.

6.3 Tradition holds that Isaiah was sawn in half at the order of Manasseh, if credible it occurred early in the reign of Manasseh. Supposedly because Isaiah rebuked the King for his vices and idolatry. If he (Isaiah) was sawed asunder Heb 11:37 applies to him.

Heb 11:37 They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated.

6.4 Isaiah is by general consent the greatest of all Hebrew writers. His words indicate that he was a man of refinement and culture, a truly poetic soul, a lover and a profound observer of creation and of human nature.

6.5 He was a statesman who looked upon the world as the scene of God's working with fiery indignation because of its wickedness, and yet ever with a note of hope and comfort for the repentant and God-fearing remnant.

6.6 So fully does he describe the person and offices of the coming Messiah, that from the time of Jerome (c. 400) he has been known as the "evangelist" of the Old Testament.

7. His reputation greatly increased after the fulfillment of many of his prophecies by the Babylonian exile (606-536), the victories of Cyrus, and the deliverance of a remnant from captivity.

8. According to Josephus, Cyrus was induced to set the Jews at liberty by the prophecies of Isaiah concerning himself (Jos Ant. xi. 1.2). 2Ch 36:23; Isa 44:28 and Isa 45:1

Isa 44:24 "This is what the LORD says -- your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the LORD, who has made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself,

Isa 44:25 who foils the signs of false prophets and makes fools of diviners, who overthrows the learning of the wise and turns it into nonsense,

Isa 44:26 who carries out the words of his servants and fulfills the predictions of his messengers, who says of Jerusalem, 'It shall be inhabited,' of the towns of Judah, 'They shall be built,' and of their ruins, 'I will restore them,'

Isa 44:27 who says to the watery deep, 'Be dry, and I will dry up your streams,'

Isa 44:28 who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd and will accomplish all that I please; he will say of Jerusalem, "Let it be rebuilt," and of the temple, "Let its foundations be laid.'"

Isa 45:1 "This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:

2Ch 36:23 "This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: "'The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Anyone of his people among you -- may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.'"

8.1 Cyrus ordered the temple rebuilding in c. 538 B.C. and the order was confirmed later by Darius in c. B.C. 520. Later in c. 458 B.C. Artaxerxes ordered the city to be rebuild.

9. Now let's take a look at The Book of Isaiah with emphasis on its many prophecies, many of which were fulfilled by Christ in His First Advent and many must await His Second Advent for fulfillment.

10. Judah and Israel were sinful nations. Although they were God's people, they were apostate and richly deserved chastisement.

Isa 1:2 Hear, O heavens! Listen, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me.

Isa 1:3 The ox knows his master, the donkey his owner's manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand."

Isa 1:4 Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the LORD; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.

Isa 1:5 Why should you be beaten anymore? Why do you persist in rebellion? Your whole head is injured, your whole heart afflicted.

Isa 1:6 From the sole of your foot to the top of your head there is no soundness-- only wounds and welts and open sores, not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with oil.

11. During Isaiah's lifetime several powerful enemies at one time or another were bent on Judah's destruction: the northern kingdom of Israel, was at different times ruled by Syria and Assyria.

12. In addition, other neighbors such as the Philistines, the Moabites, and the Edomites harassed Israel from time to time.

13. Isaiah is known to have been a court historian and personal prophet for Kings Uzziah and Hezekiah (2Ch 26:22; 32:32). During most of his tenure he was Israel's national prophet.

2Ch 26:22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last, did Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amos, write.

2Ch 32:32 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amos, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

14. The unity of the Book of Isaiah has been upheld by solid scholarship and numerous New Testament citations though it has been common for critics to speak of a "second Isaiah" who allegedly wrote in the period immediately before the end of the Babylonian Captivity.

15. Like many prophetic books of the Bible the primary justification for alleging the book was written by more than one person is the accuracy of what Isaiah predicted.

16. With so many prophecies seen fulfilled the doubting Thomas' panicked claiming there must have been two writers - God could not be that good at predicting. Jews even today speak of two books of Isaiah.

16.1 The book does have two important themes. The first thirty-nine chapters deal generally with God's judgment on sin, and chapters 40-66 emphasize God's comfort and restoration.

17. Isaiah dealt extensively with the sins of the people in his generation predicting God's judgment on both the northern and southern kingdoms. In his lifetime he saw the Assyrian captivity of the ten tribes and later, after his death, Judah was defeated by Babylon.

18. His prophetic vision, however, went far beyond his time to the ultimate judgment of God and the ultimate establishment of righteousness on earth.

19. Given the reputation of the Book of Isaiah as the greatest of all prophetic books our overview will be well served if we concentrate on prophecy; for indeed this was Isaiah's major claim to fame:

20. The future Messianic Kingdom

Isa 2:2 In the last days the mountain of the LORD'S temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

Isa 2:3 Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Isa 2:5 Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

21. Judah's humbling in the Day of the Lord

Isa 2:11 The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.

22. The coming judgment of Judah and Jerusalem

Isa 3:1 See now, the Lord, the LORD Almighty, is about to take from Jerusalem and Judah both supply and support: all supplies of food and all supplies of water ...

Isa 3:8 Jerusalem staggers, Judah is falling; their words and deeds are against the LORD, defying his glorious presence.

Isa 3:9 The look on their faces testifies against them; they parade their sin like Sodom; they do not hide it. Woe to them! They have brought disaster upon themselves ...

Isa 3:25 Your men will fall by the sword, your warriors in battle.

Isa 3:26 The gates of Zion will lament and mourn; destitute, she will sit on the ground.

Isa 4:1 In that day seven women will take hold of one man and say, "We will eat our own food and provide our own clothes; only let us be called by your name. Take away our disgrace!"

23. The glory of the coming kingdom

Isa 4:2 In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the pride and glory of the survivors in Israel.

Isa 4:3 Those who are left in Zion, who remain in Jerusalem, will be called holy, all who are recorded among the living in Jerusalem.

Isa 4:4 The Lord will wash away the filth of the women of Zion; he will cleanse the bloodstains from Jerusalem by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire.

Isa 4:5 Then the LORD will create over all of Mount Zion and over those who assemble there a cloud of smoke by day and a glow of flaming fire by night; over all the glory will be a canopy.

Isa 4:6 It will be a shelter and shade from the heat of the day, and a refuge and hiding place from the storm and rain.

24. Israel as God's vineyard

Isa 5:1 I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

Isa 5:2 He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit.

Isa 5:3 "Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

Isa 5:4 What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?

Isa 5:5 Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled.

Isa 5:6 I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it."

Isa 5:7 The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are the garden of his delight. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Isa 5:8 Woe to you who add house to house and join field to field till no space is left and you live alone in the land.

Isa 5:9 The LORD Almighty has declared in my hearing: "Surely the great houses will become desolate, the fine mansions left without occupants.

25. Isaiah's Commission

Isa 6:6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

Isa 6:7 With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."

Isa 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Isa 6:9 He said, "Go and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.'

Isa 6:10 Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

Isa 6:11 Then I said, "For how long, O Lord?" And he answered: "Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged,

Isa 6:12 until the LORD has sent everyone far away and the land is utterly forsaken.

26. Summary of the Messianic Prophecies

26.1 The reign of Christ in the Kingdom

Isa 2:3 Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Isa 2:5 Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

26.2 The virgin birth

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

26.3 The joyful reign of Christ

Isa 9:2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

Isa 9:3 You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Isa 9:4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

Isa 9:5 Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

Isa 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isa 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

26.4 The rule of Christ over the world

Isa 13:11 I will punish the world for its evil, the wicked for their sins. I will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty and will humble the pride of the ruthless.

Isa 14:5 The LORD has broken the rod of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers,

Isa 14:6 which in anger struck down peoples with unceasing blows, and in fury subdued nations with relentless aggression.

Isa 14:7 All the lands are at rest and at peace; they break into singing.

Isa 14:8 Even the pine trees and the cedars of Lebanon exult over you and say, "Now that you have been laid low, no woodsman comes to cut us down."

Isa 14:9 The grave below is all astir to meet you at your coming; it rouses the spirits of the departed to greet you-- all those who were leaders in the world; it makes them rise from their thrones-- all those who were kings over the nations.

26.5 Christ as a descendant of Jesse and David

Isa 11:1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit ...

Isa 11:10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

Isa 16:5 In love a throne will be established; in faithfulness a man will sit on it-- one from the house of David-- one who in judging seeks justice and speeds the cause of righteousness.

26.6 Christ to be filled with the Spirit

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—

Isa 42:1 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations.

26.7 Christ to judge with righteousness and justice

Isa 11:3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;

Isa 11:4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

Isa 11:5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

Isa 42:1 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations.

Isa 42:2 He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets.

Isa 42:3 A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

Isa 42:4 he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope."

26.8 Christ to make possible the unconditional covenants

Isa 42:6 "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles ...

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