

The Book of Isaiah

Trusting God More #8

Some of the outlines are taken from Melissa Spoelstra's book, *Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting More*.

Review of previous Lesson: The Worshipper praised God after he realized God was no longer angry and the burden of Babylon.

Objective: To understand following God isn't about striving; it's about trusting God more.

Opening Discussion: Read John 15:16. What does it mean to be chosen?

Today, we continue with the judgements of God and the prophetic judgement of Satan. Isaiah 13 ended with the desolation that would come upon Babylon.

Discuss Isaiah 14:1-2. Notice God had mercy on Jacob and still choose Israel. Here, the Lord reminded Israel, He had chosen them and despite their ways, He still chose them again and again. He chooses us also.

Listen to 14:1c. God's promise to Israel was that He would settle them in their own land. For them, this was a promise of restoration. The Babylonians had forcibly exiled most of the population of Judah. How do you REALLY think the promise sounded in their ears?

Discuss: Why does it seem like when God's people come to their worst, God always have something better for them?

Did you hear the inclusivity of the Gentiles (the strangers would be joined with them)? This means the regathered and restored Israel would invite the goodness of God. Think about this. In inviting the strangers to come and join them, Israel would be eliminating their enemies. Why would you make your enemies your friend?

Read Psalm 110:1

Read Isaiah 14:3-8

How is your faith strengthened when you hear. "It shall come the pass...?" Listen to what God said will come to pass! God is saying a day is coming when He will give them rest.

- God will give you rest from your sorrow-
- Rest from your fear and bondage-

- You will say how the oppressor has ceased and the golden city ceased...
- You will say how God moved....

Read Matthew 11:28.

Do you have rest from your sorrow? Do you have rest from fear? Do you have rest from hard bondage? How does the promise of rest minister to you?

The prophecy continues. God speaks two aspects of the fulfillment:

1. He spoke to immediate fulfillment regarding the empire of Babylon and their king.
2. He spoke to the distant fulfillment regarding the spiritual empire of Babylon, the world system, and the king. Do you think this is a reference to Satan?

Why would God speak to His people in two parts: immediate and distant?

Consider “how the oppressor has ceased...”. God wanted them to know the oppressor has numbered days. The time will come when the oppressor ceases.

How would this verse have ministered to slaves during slavery?

How does this verse minister to you in 2024?

Sometimes we get weary, tired, and discouraged.

God promises the one who struck Israel will be hit with wrath. Babylon was an oppressor. After this, the whole earth will be at rest and quiet.

Read verse 7, and they will break forth in singing.

Hell is the final place for Babylon!

Read 14:9-11

The torturer will be in the place where he has tortured so many himself. Most scholars believe references both Babylon and Satan.

- Satan is destined for hell.
- Satan will lose!
- Satan will go to hell as a victim!

Read the last verses again... 12-15. For sure, we hear the word Lucifer! Lucifer means day star or morning star.

Hell is the final place for Satan! Hell will gladly rejoice at his arrival.

Take home?