

The Book of Isaiah

Trusting God More #11

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

Review of the previous Lesson: What do you mean when you say, O Lord, You are my God.

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

Review: What do YOU mean when you say, "O Lord, You are my God? Isaiah 25, Praising God in the midst of trials and tribulations.

Discussion: What would a city of God look like to you? What would you expect?

Remember, this is prophecy. Read Isaiah 26:1-2. The context of Isaiah 24-25 points to the day of Jesus' ultimate triumph. In that day, Messiah will reign and rule over the whole world. In that day, there will be joyful singing such as the song that will be sung in the land of Judah.

Augustine, the great theologian, wrote about the city of God as he saw it spiritually. He wrote a book called, *The City of God*. Augustine addressed the fall of the Roman Empire. We have studied the fall of Satan and his final destiny. The city of God is built for the righteous and those who keep the truth. Read Revelation 21:22-27. Isaiah speaks of the coming New Jerusalem which will come after the earth passes away.

Read Isaiah 26:3-4. Who is the source of perfect peace and everlasting strength?

Did you notice this is a promise? The promise is not just for peace, but for perfect peace. In the Hebrew it is shalom, shalom. God's promise is that we can have perfect peace.

Just a moment ago we spoke of the city of God. The promise of perfect peace is prophetic. It means we can have perfect peace now. What would it be like to you to live in perfect peace?

Read John 14:27. Compare the promise of His peace to perfect peace. What is the prerequisite for obtaining His perfect peace?

"Whose mind is stayed on You..." This describes the requirement and the source. Stayed in this context means settled, established upon the LORD himself, then we can have perfect peace.

In a world with chaos, wars, earthquakes and an upcoming election, do you really believe we can have perfect peace? What would that look like to you? Would it be world peace or personal peace with Christ?

Perfect peace is a matter of our mind.

- o Read Matthew 22:37. We are to love God with all of our mind.
- Read Romans 12:2. We are transformed by the renewing of our mind.
- o Read 1 Cor 2:16 and Phil 2:5. We are to have the mind of Christ.
- o Read Colossians 3:2. We are to set our mind on things above!

Is this a recipe for perfect peace? Yes, to be kept in perfect peace our minds but be **stayed on him**.

What happens if our minds are stayed on ourselves?

What happens if our minds are stayed on the world?

What happens if our minds are stayed on our circumstances?

Notice the second prerequisite: "**Because he trusts in YOU!**"

What does it mean to trust in God? When we trust in the Lord, we keep our minds stayed on Him.

Consider Matthew 14:22-33.

What was Peter focused on at first? When did the shift happen? What happened after the shift?

Read Proverbs 3:5 as it pertains to trust. The word lean and trust come from the same root word as listed in Isaiah 26:3. We trust in the Lord because we lean on Him and not our own understanding. We are encouraged to trust in the Lord forever! This means we have to lean on the Lord forever!

Read 5-6. This covers the destiny of the city of man.

Read 7-9. This describes the way of the upright.

Read 10-11. This describes the way of the wicked.

Read Isaiah 26: 12. Lord, you will establish peace for us.

How can peace be established when there is mentioning of the wicked? How can peace be established when evil is on the rise?

Wonder why Isaiah discussed perfect peace first?

Take home?