

## Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

### LESSON: THE EVERLASTING COVENANT — September 25, 2016

#### INTRODUCTION:

**Chapter 60:1-22** Isaiah in this chapter describes the glorious kingdom that has been promised by Jehovah. There was no light and the people were in gross darkness, so, Israel was told to "arise" and "shine" for God's light would come, and the glory of the Lord will be seen on them (**60:1**). Even when darkness covered the earth, bringing gloom upon the people, the Lord shall rise upon them, and His glory will be seen on them (**60:2**). The Gentiles will come because of the light and the king's brightness (**60:3**). To lift up their eyes was a good thing because the sons and daughters that were scattered among the nations were coming home and would be healed of their stubbornness and rebellion (**60:4**). Then they shall see and be radiant; their hearts shall be thrilled and enlarged because of the abundance the merchants over around the world will bring. The wealth of the nations will come to them (**60:5**). There is a list of all these gifts and wealth, riches of the world that will be brought Israel (**60:6-9**).

Sons and strangers; foreigners shall rebuild up their walls; kings will serve and minister aid. "*In God's wrath I smote thee*" refer to Titus who destroyed Jerusalem, killing over one million Jews, and therefore they were scattered all over the world as outcasts, but in His favor, He had mercy upon them even when they didn't deserve it. And, their gates will be opened continually and the nations and kingdoms that will not serve Israel will be destroyed (**60:10-12**).

Special attention is centered around the worship performed in Jerusalem. The sanctuary will be a beautiful place and the glory of Lebanon will be a vital part of the structure to honor the place of God's glorious feet (**60: 13**). Those who had previously afflicted them will come bending unto them, and those that despised them shall bow and fall at their feet, clinging in that posture for mercy, calling them the city of the Lord the Zion of the Holy One of Israel (**60: 14**). Instead of being ignored, forsaken, and hated, Israel will now have an Eternal Excellency, a joy of many generations (**60: 15**). As a mother gives milk for the nourishment of her child, so the nations will give of their life for the substance of Israel, and they will know that the Lord is their Savior; Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob (**60: 16**). There will be both outward beauty and inward stability in this city. Good materials, such as brass, iron, wood, and stones, will be replaced with gold and silver. This will be accomplished by God Himself—"I will bring; I will also make." There will be no more violence, but their walls shall be called Salvation, and their gates Praise (**60:17-18**). There shall be no need for sun; neither the brightness of the moon. The sun shall never set and the moon shall not go down due to the Glory of the Lord. His radiance will be of such magnificence that He shall be an Everlasting Light, and their mourning shall end (**60: 19-20**). All the people shall be righteous. They shall inherit the land forever. These people would be a branch of God's planting and the work of His hands, implying that they would receive their care and nourishment from God Himself, therefore, ultimately glorifying God. (**60:21**). "*A little one*" refers to the little flock who will ultimately inherit the kingdom and shall become a thousand and a small one will become a strong nation. God will hasten it, but it will all happen in His time (**60:22**).

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## LESSON: I. THE MESSIANIC MISSION ISAIAH 61:1-4

**61:1** The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;—

In this chapter Isaiah introduces the Messianic Prophecy of the One who will rule; pointing to Jesus' First Coming, however, the speaker is the Messiah Himself through Isaiah about the Messiah. This verse is written in the Old Testament to be fulfilled in the New Testament—**Luke 4** demonstrates this fulfillment when Jesus stands in the synagogue of His hometown in Nazareth to read these scriptures before the Jews. But before that incident **Luke 3:22** brings many witnesses to the scene as Jesus is baptized by the Holy Ghost in the river Jordan. *"And the Holy Ghost descended in bodily shape like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art My beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased."* Jesus allows us to know that (He) the Spirit of the Lord God is upon Him, anointing Him for purpose. His fulfillment continues **Acts 10:38** *"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him."* The Hebrew word is "*mashach*" indicates a pouring on of oil to set apart a person for a specific office. In the Old Testament, people were appointed to be kings, prophets, or priests. And the Spirit of the Lord came upon certain ones to empower them for a certain task, but then afterwards left. The Spirit of the Lord's power is upon Jesus forever and the anointing is on Him **forever**. The Messiah's anointing here emphasizes the prophetic nature of Christ's ministry, as The Anointed Prophet, Priest, and King **forever**. The Spirit of the Lord has Anointed Him and sent Him...

- to **preach** good tidings unto the meek; — Give the Word that transforms lives.
- to **bind up** the brokenhearted, — comfort or heal broken hearts.
- to **proclaim** liberty to the captives, — Announce freedom to prisoners.
- to **open** the prison to them that are bound — release and set free those bound in prison.

In to show that Christ is the Anointed One -

**61:2** To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;—

- The Messiah's ministry continues. He is sent...
- to **proclaim** the year of Jehovah's favor; announce pardon,
  - to **proclaim** the day of vengeance of our God — fulfilled at His Second Coming.
  - to **comfort** all that mourn

**61:3** To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. To them that mourn in Zion, the Messiah will...

- **appoint** unto them that mourn in Zion by **giving** them beauty for ashes, —God's radiance in exchange for ashes of repentance.
- **give** them the oil of joy for mourning,
- **give** them the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness...

...that they might be called trees of righteousness/ oaks of righteousness, meaning strong trees, or mighty ones planted by the Lord, that He might be glorified.

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**61:4 And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.** Once the Lord has repaired and built them up to be "oaks of righteousness", the people will begin to repair the city. "*The old wastes*" refer to the building of ancient ruins. Cities and lands that have been desolate for many generations will be re-inhabited.

## NOT APART OF THE LESSON Verses 5-7

**61:5 And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.**

- strangers shall stand and feed their flocks — those with former hostilities to Israel would stand as servants ready to perform whatever tasks she deemed necessary. And they will be shepherds to their animals.
- the sons of the alien shall be their plowmen and their vinedressers. — People from abroad will work in their fields and in their vineyards.

**61:6 But ye shall be named the Priests of the Lord: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.** Under the Old Testament God ordained the priests of Israel to stand between Him and His people. They brought God's Word to the people, and the people's need and sins to God. Under the New Covenant, all believers are priests before God, reading God's Word and seeking to understand it, confessing their sins directly to God, and ministering to others. In that day of Restoration the entire nation of Israel will be a nation of Priests and Ministers, eating of the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory they will boast.

**61:7 For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.** They had suffered shame in double measure; abuse and insult were their lot. Instead of their shame and instead of confusion, they will rejoice. So, in their own land they shall possess double and an everlasting joy shall be theirs.

## II. THE KINGDOM BLESSINGS ISAIAH 61:8-11

**61:8 For I the Lord love judgment, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.** The Lord loves justice and hates robbery. He swiftly judges robbery and oppression. The heathen had robbed Israel of that which was most meaningful: their sacrificial system. He will faithfully reward and make recompense in truth and make an everlasting covenant with them.

**61:9 And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the Lord hath blessed.** Their sons shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the people. In that day the restored sons of Jacob will be a testimony to the moral glory of the Messiah. One cannot be blessed without Christ. Even in redeemed men, it is Christ within men Who is blessed. All who see them will acknowledge them as the seed blessed of the Lord.

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**61:10** I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. Verse 9b says it all: "...all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the Lord hath blessed." The new restored life of the Jews expresses great joy in the Lord. It is an inner joy, for it comes from their soul in their God. This joy was a result of the fact that God had clothed them with the garments of salvation. He covered them with the robe of righteousness. The imagery is of the Bridegroom arrayed Himself with ornaments; in his priestly turban or crown, and the bride embellishes her jewels. A bride and bridegroom dress carefully for their wedding. They wear special clothes to show their character and serious intention. What the bridegroom wears implies that through sacrifice can the robe of righteousness be worn decked with ornaments. And for the bride describes the feeling and excitement of being clothed in the righteousness of God arrayed in her jewels.

**61:11** For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. God is able to cause growth and praise. If the earth can bring forth her bud, and the garden can cause sown things to spring forth, then God's creative power can also cause righteousness and praise to spring forth from His people before all the nations, as He's brought forth natural life.

## SUMMARY:

In this chapter Isaiah introduces the Messianic Prophecy of the One who will rule; pointing to the Messiah. The Spirit of the Lord being upon Jesus lays out His ministry: to **preach** good tidings to the meek; **bind up** the brokenhearted; **proclaim** liberty to captives, and **open** the prison to them that are bound; **proclaim** the year of Jehovah's favor; **proclaim** the day of vengeance of God; and **comfort** all that mourn. To them that mourn in Zion, the Messiah will **appoint** to them by **giving** them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness that they might be called trees of righteousness/ oaks of righteousness, meaning strong trees, or mighty ones planted by the Lord, that He might be glorified. Once the Lord has repaired and built them up to be "oaks of righteousness", then the people will begin to repair these cities and lands that have been desolate for many generations to be re-inhabited (**61:1-4**).

The Lord loves justice and hates robbery. He swiftly judges those who had robbed Israel of that which was most meaningful: their sacrificial system. He will faithfully reward Israel in truth and make an everlasting covenant with them. Their seed will be known and honored among the nations and because they are blessed of the Lord, they will greatly rejoice, even their soul will be joyful in their God. He's clothed them with garments of salvation, covered them me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. . If the earth can bring forth her bud, and the garden cause sown things to spring forth, then God's creative power can also cause righteousness and praise to spring forth from His people before all the nations, as He's brought forth natural life (**61:8-11**).