

# “THE DAY OF THE LORD”

## Isaiah 2-4

### Introduction

- 1) **Isaiah** spoke God’s divine word to the nation of Judah in a time of unfaithfulness and crisis
  - 2) The faithful remnant needed confidence in God working His great plan, and the unfaithful needed to know the dire consequences of rebellion against the will of the Lord
  - 3) “*The Day of the Lord*” – a joyous time for the righteous and a fearful time for the sinner
- I) “**In the Latter/Last Days**” – the Mountain of the Lord’s House (2:2-5; cf. Micah 4:1-5)
- A) *In the last days* – future, Messianic kingdom in final dispensation of time (Acts 2:16-17)
  - B) *The mountain of the Lord’s house* – Messianic kingdom/government/church (1 Tim. 3:15)
  - C) *Established on top...and exalted above* – superior to all other governments (Eph. 1:21)
  - D) *All nations shall flow to it* – open to all nations, races, peoples (Lk. 24:47)
  - E) *Many people say, Come, let us go up* – people will desire to enter (Col. 3:11)
  - F) *He will teach...we will walk* – God’s law will guide lives of citizens (Jas. 1:25)
  - G) *Out of Zion/Jerusalem shall go forth law/word of the Lord* – gospel message proceed first from Jerusalem (Acts 1-2)
  - H) *Nations beat swords into plowshares...not lift up sword against nation* – peace in Christ (Eph. 2:16-17)
  - I) *Let us walk in the light of the Lord* – the need and duty of every person (Eph. 5:8)
- II) “**The Day of the Lord**” – God’s Judgment on His Wicked People (2:2 – 4:1)
- A) Nation filled with worldly prosperity, but empty and corrupt spiritually (2:6-11)
    - 1) Attracted to foreign influences, earthly wealth, and idolatry
  - B) Judgment of God will bring low the sinful pride of men and his idols (2:12-22)
    - 1) Worldly success will often feed vain pride and self-sufficiency that forsakes God
    - 2) Day of the Lord = “terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty” (2:10, 19, 21)
  - C) Chaos erupts within the unfaithful nation judged and chastened by God (3:1-15)
    - 1) They had brought this disaster upon themselves (3:8-9)
  - D) Arrogant and seductive women of Judah will be brought low (3:16 – 4:1)
    - 1) Corrupt hearts manifested in outward immodesty (1 Pet. 3:3-4; 1 Tim. 2:9-10)
- III) **The Future Cleansing and Exaltation of Zion (4:2-6)**
- A) “In that day” – a future day of divine blessing and joy for the faithful (4:2a)
    - 1) Same time as the “latter days” of 2:2-4; the coming messianic age/dispensation
    - 2) Prophetic contrast between the worldly evil of that day and a future day of divine blessings
  - B) The “Branch of the Lord” shall be beautiful and glorious – **Messiah** (4:2; 11:1-5; Jer. 23:5-6; 33:15-18; Zech. 3:8; 6:12-13)
  - C) Divine blessings brought upon God’s faithful remnant left in Zion (4:3-6; cf. Eph. 1:3)
    - 1) Be called holy (sanctified, set apart)
    - 2) Washed and purged
    - 3) Guidance (cloud and fire – Ex. 13:21)
    - 4) Protection, refuge, and shelter

### Conclusion

The two prophecies of the Messianic kingdom provided a light of hope to sustain the faithful remnant in the chaos and disaster brought upon the sinful rulers and people of the nation of Judah. We can see in Judah a reflection of the problems of our own time and nation – let us find refuge now in God’s kingdom and follow His divine and glorious way in Christ Jesus.