

“A NEW NAME”

Isaiah 60-62

Introduction

- 1) **Names** are important in the Bible – often had important meanings and significance
 - a) **Moses** – “drawn out” (Ex. 2:10); **Jesus** – “savior” (Matt. 1:21)
 - b) **Bethel** – “house of God” (Gen. 28:19)
- 2) God has important names that reveal His nature and character
 - a) **El Shaddai** (Almighty God, Gen. 17:1); **Abir** (Mighty One, Isa. 60:16)
 - b) **El Olam** (Everlasting God, Isa. 40:28); **El Elyon** (God Most High, Gen. 14:18)
- 3) God changed men’s names for important occasions and meanings
 - a) **Abram** – **Abraham** (Gen. 17:5); **Jacob** – **Israel** (Gen. 32:28)
- 4) God’s people would be called by a “new name” in the messianic Zion (Isa. 62:2)
 - a) Does this refer to the new names given in 62:4, 12?
 - b) Is it symbolic of the new relationship between God and men in the future messianic kingdom (cp. Rev. 2:17)
 - c) Could it refer to the name “Christian” that early NT disciples were called (Acts 11:26)?
- 5) The glory of Zion – the coming messianic kingdom – is on full display in **Isaiah 60-62**

I) **The Dawning of the Messianic Age (60:1-3)**

- A) The darkness of sin and captivity would give way to the glorious light of God that will be seen in God’s people (cf. 59:9-10)
 - 1) Gentiles would come to this shining light of God’s people (cf. 2:2-3 Lord’s mountain)
 - a) The Servant-Messiah would be a light to the Gentiles (42:6; 49:6; cf. Acts 26:17-18, 23)

II) **The Splendor and Glory of Zion (60:4-14)**

- A) Joy will be like a mother with her gathered children (v. 4)
- B) The wealth of the Gentiles brought in – prosperity and glory (vv. 5-9; cf. Rev. 21:24-26)
- C) Sons of foreigners [Gentiles] included (vv. 10-12)
 - 1) God’s mercy granted, and the gates remain open to all
 - 2) Those who will not come will perish
- D) God’s sanctuary [people] beautified and will be called “City of the Lord, Zion of the Holy One of Israel” (vv. 13-14; cf. Heb. 12:22-24; Mt. Zion in NT = kingdom of Christ)

III) **The Lord will Bless Zion (60:15-22)**

- A) Zion once forsaken and hated will now be exalted before all – will know that God is the Lord, Savior, Redeemer, and Mighty One of Jacob (vv. 15-16)
- B) Built with better materials, peace will rule, no violence (vv. 17-18; cf. Eph. 2:15-17)
 - 1) Walls = “salvation”; Gates = “praise”
- C) Lord would be an everlasting light for His people (vv. 19-20; cf. Rev. 21:23; 22:5)
- D) People shall be righteous, and the little and small shall become large (vv. 21-22)

IV) **The Mission of the Servant-Messiah (61:1-3)**

- A) The unity of the Godhead – **Spirit** is upon the **Son** whom the **Father** has anointed (v. 1)
 - 1) Jesus is the anointed of God and filled with the Holy Spirit (cf. Acts 10:38)
 - 2) Messiah will preach the gospel by Holy Spirit (Isa. 11:2; 42:1; 48:16)
- B) **Mission:** preach good tidings to the poor, heal the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives [in sin], opening prison for the bound, and proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord and the day of God’s vengeance, comfort all who mourn, called trees of righteousness (Isa. 49:8-9; 50:4)
- C) Jesus publicly read and affirmed that He fulfilled this prophecy (Lk. 4:16-21)

V) The Effect of His Mission (61:4-11)

- A) Old ruins rebuilt with the aid of the Gentiles (vv. 4-5; cf. Amos 9:11-12)
- B) Will be called “Priests of the Lord” and “Servants of our God” (v. 6)
- C) Lord will reward His people and make an everlasting covenant (vv. 7-9; cf. 55:3)
- D) Lord clothe His people as a bridegroom and bride (vv. 10-11)
 - 1) “Garments of salvation” and the “robe of righteousness”
 - 2) Righteousness and praise spring forth before all nations like a garden

VI) Salvation Comes to Zion (62:1-5)

- A) Lord will not rest until Zion’s righteousness and salvation burns bright (v. 1)
 - 1) Gentiles see righteousness
 - 2) Called by a new name
 - 3) Be a crown of glory and royal diadem
 - 4) Not called forsaken or desolate, but shall be called **Hephzibah** [my delight is in her] and **Beulah** [married] – Lord delights in them and the land shall be married (cf. Eph. 5:32-33)
- B) “New name” possibilities
 - 1) Being called “Hephzibah” and “Beulah” (v. 4)
 - 2) A new relationship/fellowship with God based in a new messiah and a new covenant
 - 3) NT name “Christian” first used in Antioch, a Jew/Gentile mixed church (Acts 11:26)

VII) Watchmen Set over Zion (62:6-12)

- A) Lord set watchmen on walls who will not hold their peace (v. 6; cp. 56:10)
 - 1) People must pray to God to fulfill His purpose for Zion (v. 7)
- B) God’s blessings will be enjoyed by God’s people, not enemies (vv. 8-9)
- C) A way prepared for those who wish to enter Zion (v. 10)
 - 1) Ask for the old paths (cf. Jer. 6:16)
 - 2) Jesus is the right way (cf. Jn. 14:4)
- D) Lord announces the climatic coming of salvation to Zion (v. 11-12; cf. Matt. 21:5, 9)
 - 1) Reward will come with Him [Messiah] (cf. Rev. 22:12)
 - 2) Zion called “Holy People” “Redeemed of the Lord” “Sought Out” “A City Not Forsaken” – a wonderful name for the Redeemed; salvation is found only in Zion

Conclusion

This wonderful prophecy of the coming **messianic Zion** is a joyful and bright picture of the future and is strengthening to God’s people then and now. The true church of Christ today demonstrates the “manifold wisdom of God...according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Eph. 3:10-11). The mission of the Messiah to seek and save the lost is still our mission as His called-out people in a lost world. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, but all are now one in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:26-28).