

Isaiah: A Prophet for Our Time
Our Protector and Sustainer
Isaiah 27:1-13

Ever since the fall of Genesis 3, man has had to govern himself. After all, Eve was tempted with the idea that she could be like God, creating her own reality and establishing her own moral order. What we have developed since that time are systems of economics and government that we hope bring stability and security to our societies. While some systems are better than others, they all fall short of what God originally intended.

1. God's power to judge will destroy chaos and restore order.
2. God's faithfulness to save will bring hope amid suffering.
3. God's willingness to discipline will lead to repentance.
4. God's call to His people will gather them in worship.

In between the time of rejection of God and gathering to worship Him are three stages that people usually go through. There are the dark days of separation from God when God disciplines those who have wandered off the path of faith. The good news is that every rebellious sinner can confess their sins and turn from false idols (self, money, reputation, sports, etc.) and have their sins forgiven.

Reflection

How should Isaiah 27:1 motivate us to study and master God's Word so we can wield it as a spiritual sword in battling sin and Satan more effectively? How can we understand the great suffering our persecuted brothers and sisters are experiencing around the world in light of this chapter? Read Isaiah 5:1-7 and contrast the disappointing vineyard in that passage with successful vineyard in Isaiah 27:2-6. Why does one fail and the other succeed? Read John 15:1-8 and consider the fruit from Isaiah 27:6 that God wants to see in our lives that will "fill the face of the world." How is idolatry still an issue for Christians now as it was for Israel in the Old Testament? How does God's power to regather His people by a trumpet blast give us reason and motivation to worship?