

Isaiah 2

3-4-04

“Stop Trusting in Man...Trust in God!”

1. **Intro:**

- 1.1. **Trust in God!** – **Story** of Alexander the Great when he was sick.
 - 1.1.1. A very close friend, a physician, came to Alexander when Alexander was sick. Before he could administer the potion to him, Alexander received a letter warning him it was poisoned. When the physician friend came in clutching the letter in one hand he took the cup in the other & drank it all down. Then showed him the letter.
 - 1.1.2. How he trusted his friend!
- 1.2. **Outline:**
 - 1.2.1. **God's City**(Jer) **as it Ought to Be**; **God's City as it Was**; **God's City as it Will Be**.
- 1.3. Ch.1 Isaiah looked **within** the heart of the nation, now he looks **ahead** to the future glorious kingdom.

2. **GOD'S CITY AS IT OUGHT TO BE! (1-4)**

- 2.1. This continues on from 1:27-31 **“Zion shall be...”**.
 - 2.1.1. **Micah 4:1-3** is almost identical. (2 contemporaries)
- 2.2. (2b) **Jerusalem a beacon in a dark world!**
 - 2.2.1. **Jerusalem will be both political & spiritual** headquarters in those days as God's truth is transmitted from Jerusalem.
 - 2.2.2. God has always worked in **2 ways** in reaching the world!
 - 2.2.3. **Centrifugal** – Expansive – “Go” – “Sent out”.
 - 2.2.3.1. **Examples:**
 - 2.2.3.2. **Israel** - Is.49:6 **“I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.”**
 - 2.2.3.3. **[As Captives] Joseph** to Egypt; & **young Jewish maid** to Syrian commander Naaman.
[In Exile] Daniel(Babylon) & **Esther**(Medo-Persia).
[As a Missionary to a pagan land] Jonah/Ninevehites.
 - 2.2.3.4. **Jerusalem** was supposed to be a missionary city!
 - 2.2.3.5. **His Church** - Mt.28:20 **“Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you

always, even to the end of the age." Amen."

- 2.2.4. **Centripetal** – Attractive – “Come” – Attract – magnet.
- 2.2.4.1. **Examples:**
- 2.2.4.2. **Israel** – Here **Is.2:2-4**.
- 2.2.4.3. The Tabernacle/Temple/Synagogues.
Ruth the Moabite came; **Naaman** the Syrian came.
 At Pentecost Acts 2:5 “**And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.**” (they had come!)
- 2.2.4.4. **His Church** –
- 2.2.4.5. Our churches act the same as the Tabernacle/Temple/Jer. did in the OT times. – People “**come**” to our churches!
- 2.2.4.6. Though, I believe our primary task is to “**go**” to them; the church also has experienced many who have “**come**” to church, crusade, etc. & have found salvation.
- 2.2.5. **We are to be both:** going out witnessing(**go**); & being a witness(when people **come** & see us)!
- 2.2.5.1. **Q:** Which is more difficult for you? (Being a Christian, or talking about it with people?)
- 2.3. (4) **The U.N. Motto!**
- 2.3.1. the entire earth will experience peace when weapons of warfare will be used for peaceful purposes.
- 2.3.2. **Q:** Can we lay down our weapons now? Why will there be no real peace until the time of Christ’s Coming?
- 2.3.3. **A:** Because it will only be found when the truth of God is shared(3b).
- 2.3.4. **Q:** So what is the recipe for peace? (The Word)

3. **GOD’S CITY AS IT WAS! (5-9)**

- 3.1. (5) Sounds like 1 Jn.1:7 “**But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**”
- 3.1.1. Unless mules that work the mines were brought up regularly & exposed to the sunlight, they would eventually go blind.
- 3.1.2. The Christian needs similar experiences to keep him from losing his spiritual vision.
- 3.1.3. “**A musician** is commended, not that he played so long, but that he played so well.
 And thus it is not the **days** of our life, but the **goodness** of our life;
 Not the **length** of our prayers, but the **fervency** of our prayers;

Not the **measure** of our profession, but the **sincerity** of our profession...that is acceptable unto God!"

- 3.2. (6,7) God had abandoned His people because of their idolatries!
 - 3.2.1. Instead of **Jerusalem feeding the world** it was **being fed by** every kind of **false religion**.
 - 3.2.1.1. **Judah was borrowing new religious ideas!**
 - 3.2.2. This happens w/the *compromising church* in every age!
 - 3.2.3. Along w/superstition went worldly alliances(6b) & materialism(7).
 - 3.2.4. **Note:** a violation of **Deut.17:15-17**.
 - 3.2.4.1. Also see **1 Tim. 6:17,18** (He's not the cosmic kill-joy)
- 3.3. (8,9) **Idol worship is bad because:**
 - 3.3.1. [1] It's worshipping something He **created**...rather than Him.
 - 3.3.2. [2] It destroys the relationship of **trust** we have w/Him.
 - 3.3.3. [3] It causes us to rely on **our own efforts** rather than on God.¹

4. **GOD'S CITY AS IT WILL BE! (10-22)**

- 4.1. (10) He will have the last word & there will be no hiding place on that day.
- 4.2. (11) There will be a day when God alone is exalted!
 - 4.2.1. **We are foolish to put our trust in anything less than the unchanging God.**
- 4.3. (12-18) The prophet frequently blends the **historical** & the **future** prophetic.
 - 4.3.1. **Assyrian/722bc – Babylonian/586bc – Future Trib./Rev.6-19.**
 - 4.3.2. Note "**all & every**" – Future tribulations will be to all the nations of the world.
- 4.4. (19) **Read Rev.6:15-17.**
- 4.5. (22) **His wrap up with this chapter:** Stop trusting in **yourself**. Stop trusting in your **foreign neighbors**. Stop trusting in your **false religions**. Stop trusting in **your fellow man**.
 - 4.5.1. **Realize, they only own 1 breath at a time!** (no man can hold 2!)
 - 4.5.2. **How could you trust in something so frail?**
 - 4.5.3. **Q: Could you be guilty of putting your trust in men or women rather in Christ?** - Do you trust in that pay check? That child support check? Your employer to have your job there for you tomorrow? The economy not to crumble? Gas prices to go back under \$2 a gal
 - 4.5.4. **Read – The Road of Life²**

¹ L.A.B.

² Tim Hansel, *Holy Sweat*; The Tale of the Tardy Ox; under “Trust” topic.