Isaiah

The Revelation within Isaiah

Chapters 24, 25

Chapters 24 through 27 of Isaiah are sometimes referred to as "Isaiah's Apocalypse". Within these chapters Isaiah's vision expands to a worldwide view of the future. The word *earth* is used twenty-five times in these four chapters, as well as the key phrase, "*in that day*". We have discussed previously how this phrase, the majority of the time, is an end-time reference, Day of the Lord, end-of-the-age allusion in the Bible. David Pawson expounds on this point,

"Whenever the prophets used the phrase *in that day*, nine times out of ten they are referring to the end of the world, to the last day of history, to the day when God ties up all the loose ends, when he brings this world to an end, the day when he puts it all right, the day when he fulfills his plan for the ages—in *that* day." David Pawson, *Come With Me Through Isaiah*, pg, 103

Isaiah is the first OT Prophet to get a picture of the last days. Much of what he sees will be recognizable to a believer familiar with the Bible; as they are reiterated and expounded upon in more end time centric books like Daniel, Revelation and Zechariah. In these chapters, the last days are revealed but in no particular or sequential order. It is as if the end days vision is first given to the prophet as a jigsaw puzzle, and Isaiah dumps it all out. Then by the time the book of Revelation comes about, the prophesy is a more chronological, more orderly revelation about the last days of the earth.

There are twelve end time prophesies in Isaiah 24-27 that also appear in Daniel and Revelation:

- 1 The whole world is to be judged.
- 2 The Lord is to return to the earth.
- 3 The sun and moon are to be changed
- 4 All tears will be wiped away
- 5 The resurrection of the dead will take place
- 6 A trumpet will be blown

- 7 A great feast will be enjoyed by God's people
- 8 Death will be swallowed up
- 9 Satan will be vanguished with his host in the heavenlies
- 10 Israel will be gathered together
- 11- A new Jerusalem will be built
- 12 God's glory will be seen by the whole world
 Pawson, Come With Me Through Isaiah,
 pg 104

The Passion Translation

Isaiah's Apocalypse

24 Behold! The Lord Yahweh is about to devastate the earth and make it desolate.

He will mar its surface and scatter the inhabitants.

- ² Everyone will experience the same fate—priests and people, masters and slaves, their maids and mistresses, buyers and sellers, lenders and borrowers, rich and poor.
- ³ The earth will be utterly devastated and ruined, for the Lord Yahweh has spoken this word!
- ⁴ The ground itself mourns and withers; the soil languishes over the sins of its people, and the wealthy elite wither and languish.
- ⁵ The people have polluted the earth beneath their feet by disobeying laws, violating truth, and breaking the ancient, everlasting covenant.
- ⁶ Therefore a curse devours the earth; its people suffer under their guilt, causing earth's inhabitants to dwindle, and their number is reduced to so few.
- ⁷ The new wine dries up, the vine withers, and all the party-goers groan *with disappointment*.
- ⁸ The joyful mirth of the tambourines is stilled, the jubilant noise of the revelers is ended, and the happy sound of the harp falls silent.
- 9 No more wine and song!Hard liquor has become bitter to those who drink it.

- 10 The city lies in chaos, and no one can enter.
- ¹¹ Riots break out because there is no wine. The sun has set on their gladness and joy; celebrations have disappeared from the earth.
- 12 The city is left desolate with its gates battered down.
- ¹³ As an olive tree is shaken clean of its olives and a grapevine picked clean of its grapes, so will be the fate of the nations.

The Song of the Remnant

14 *The remnant* lifts up its voice with a joyful shout. From the west they praise the majesty of the Lord Yahweh,

¹⁵ and in the east they give glory to the Lord God! The coastlands magnify the name of Yahweh, the Lord God of Israel!

¹⁶ From all over the world we hear their songs of praise—songs of glory and beauty to the Righteous One! But I said, "I *feel I'm* wasting away.

I'm doomed; I'm wasting away."

With deception, deceivers deceive!

With treachery, the treacherous betray!

- ¹⁷ Terror, pit, and trap are waiting for you, inhabitants of the earth.
- ¹⁸ The one who flees from the report of terror will fall into the pit. And whoever crawls out of the pit will be caught by the trap. Heaven's floodgates opened and earth's foundations tremble.
- ¹⁹ The earth is breaking, breaking!

The earth is crumbling, crumbling!

The earth is tottering, tottering!

²⁰ The earth staggers like a drunkard, as a hut sways *in a storm*.

Its sin lies heavy upon it; it falls to rise no more.

The Lord Almighty Will Reign

- ²¹ In that day, the Lord Yahweh will punish heaven's host and the kings of the earth.
- ²² They will be gathered together and locked up in a prison like prisoners in a pit, and after many days, they will be punished.
- ²³ Then the sun and moon will hang their heads in shame, for Yahweh, Commander of Angel Armies, will reign! He will manifest his glory on Mount Zion in Jerusalem, before all her elders!

Song of God's Faithfulness

25 Lord Yahweh, you are my *glorious* God!

I will exalt you and praise your name forever, for you have done so many wonderful things. Well-thought-out plans you formed in ages past; you've been faithful and true to fulfill them all!

²The city that was once mighty you've turned into a heap of rubble; the fortified city now lies in ruins.

The foreigner's fortress is no more and will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore, superpower nations will glorify you and the cities of terrorist nations will revere you.

4 You have been a fortress-protector for the poor, a mighty stronghold for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the sudden storm, and a shade from the shimmering heat of the day. For the fury of tyrants was like a winter windstorm battering against the wall,

⁵ and like the heat of a drought in a desert land; but you subdued the heat under the shade of clouds. You alone silence the song of tyrants.

The Rich Feast of the Lord

- ⁶ The Lord Yahweh, Commander of Angel Armies, will host a rich feast on this mountain for all peoples— a feast with plenty of meat and well-aged wine, with an abundance of food and the finest of wine.
- ⁷ And on this mountain, he will destroy the shroud wrapped around all the people, the veil spread over all nations.
- 8 It is the gloom of death!
 He will swallow it up in victory forever!
 And God, Lord Yahweh, will wipe away
 every tear from every face.
 He will remove every trace of disgrace
 that his people have suffered throughout the world,
 for the Lord Yahweh has promised it!
- 9 In that day they will say,
 "Behold! This is our God!
 We've waited for him, and he saved us!
 This one, the Lord Yahweh—he is worth the wait!
 We will keep shouting with joy
 as we find our bliss in his salvation-kiss!"

 10 The mighty, gracious hand of the Lord Yahweh

will rest upon this mountain, but the Moabites will be trampled under his feet as straw gets trampled into the manure.

11 They will stretch out their arms in it like a swimmer stretches out his arms to swim, yet God will bring down their pride, and they will thrash and sink despite their struggle.

12 He will tear down the high walls of Moab's fortresses and flatten them into the dust.

New King James Version

Impending Judgment on the Earth

24 Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, Distorts its surface
And scatters abroad its inhabitants.

2 And it shall be:
As with the people, so with the priest;
As with the servant, so with his master;
As with the maid, so with her mistress;
As with the buyer, so with the seller;
As with the lender, so with the borrower;
As with the creditor, so with the debtor.

³ The land shall be entirely emptied and utterly plundered, For the LORD has spoken this word.

"Everybody will be judged. That is a sobering and serious thought which we constantly need to remember. People may escape judgement easily here but there will be a day when no-one will escape. Money will not buy them out of it, religion will not buy them out of it, social status will not buy them out of it; everyone will stand before God, including kings and rulers, who will stand with their people to be judged." Pawson, Come With Me Through Isaiah, pg. 106

⁴ The *earth mourns and* fades away, The *world languishes and* fades away; The haughty people of the earth languish.

- The Hebrew homonym can mean the ground "mourns (over the sin of its inhabitants)" or "dries up (with drought)." This is a powerful play on words in the Hebrew. – TPT footnotes

⁵ The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, Because they have transgressed the laws, Changed the ordinance, Broken the everlasting covenant.

⁶ Therefore the curse has devoured the earth,

And those who dwell in it are desolate.

Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned,

And few men are left.

⁷ The new wine fails, the vine languishes,

All the merry-hearted sigh.

8 The mirth of the tambourine ceases,

The noise of the jubilant ends,

The joy of the harp ceases.

⁹ They shall not drink wine with a song;

Strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.

- "They will drink strong drink and it will taste sour and they will not feel happy over it. There will come a day when human happiness and joy will go because the earth will be desolate, there will be nothing left to enjoy, to be happy about. The only happiness in that day will be the day of the Lord, But there is a sad picture of those who no longer enjoy their pleasures." Pawson, Come With Me Through Isaiah, pg. 107

¹⁰ The city of confusion is broken down;

Every house is shut up, so that none may go in.

11 There is a cry for wine in the streets,

All joy is darkened,

The mirth of the land is gone.

12 In the city desolation is left,

And the gate is stricken with destruction.

13 When it shall be thus in the midst of the land among the people,

It shall be like the shaking of an olive tree,

Like the gleaning of grapes when the vintage is done.

14 They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing;

For the majesty of the LORD

They shall cry aloud from the sea.

 15 Therefore glorify the LORD in the dawning light,

The name of the LORD God of Israel in the coastlands of the sea.

 16 From the ends of the earth we have heard songs:

"Glory to the righteous!"

But I said, "I am ruined, ruined!

Woe to me!

The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously,

Indeed, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously."

17 Fear and the pit and the snare

Are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth.

18 And it shall be

That he who flees from the noise of the fear

Shall fall into the pit,

And he who comes up from the midst of the pit

Shall be caught in the snare;

For the windows from on high are open,

And the foundations of the earth are shaken.

19 The earth is violently broken,

The earth is split open,

The earth is shaken exceedingly.

20 The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard,

And shall totter like a hut:

Its transgression shall be heavy upon it,

And it will fall, and not rise again.

21 It shall come to pass in that day

That the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones,

- In this context, heaven's host becomes a figure of speech for dark powers that operate in rebellion to God. -TPT footnotes

And on the earth the kings of the earth.

22 They will be gathered together,

As prisoners are gathered in the pit,

And will be shut up in the prison;

After many days they will be punished.

²³ Then the moon will be disgraced And the sun ashamed;

For the LORD of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem And before His elders, gloriously.

Praise to God

25 O LORD, You are my God.

I will exalt You,

I will praise Your name,

For You have done wonderful things;

Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

- People will praise God in that day for two things: the past and the future. You can praise God when you think of what He has done and what He is going to do. Pawson, Come With Me Through Isaiah, pg. 108

² For You have made a city a ruin,

A fortified city a ruin,

A palace of foreigners to be a city no more;

It will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore the strong people will glorify You;

The city of the terrible nations will fear You.

⁴ For You have been a strength to the poor,

A strength to the needy in his distress,

A refuge from the storm,

A shade from the heat;

For the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

⁵ You will reduce the noise of aliens,

As heat in a dry place;

As heat in the shadow of a cloud,

The song of the terrible ones will be diminished.

⁶ And in this mountain

The LORD of hosts will make for all people

A feast of choice pieces,

A feast of wines on the lees,

Of fat things full of marrow,

Of well-refined wines on the lees.

⁷ And He will destroy on this mountain

The surface of the covering cast over all people,

And the veil that is spread over all nations.

 The gloom of death is like a shroud over every life. The curse of death is defeated in Christ so that all may come to the rich, joyous feast of the Lord. – TPT Footnotes

8 He will swallow up death forever,

The Hebrew word *netsach* can mean "victory" or "forever." The translation includes both concepts. *Netsach* comes from a root word that means "to glitter from afar, to excel." Jesus' death, burial, resurrection, and ascension have brought an endless victory, endless life, and the conquest of every enemy. Now he waits for his sons and daughters to arise and become the second witness to his eternal victory. – TPT Footnotes

And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; The rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken.

There is a spiritual veil (covering) of darkness over the minds of the people. Christ will return and remove the veil of darkness from the people by binding Satan for one thousand years (see Rev 20). In 1 Corinthians 15:54 Paul refers to Isaiah 25:8 when he writes "It is written, Death is swallowed up in victory". Also John writes, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes" Rev 21:4 – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnotes pg. 1065

9 And it will be said in that day:"Behold, this is our God;We have waited for Him, and He will save us.

This is the LORD;

We have waited for Him; We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

- The Hebrew word *qavah* (the root word for "rope") means "to wait, to entwine." Waiting on God means binding and connecting our hearts to who God is and to his promise. The Hebrew concept of waiting on the Lord is never a passive thing but active, full of expectation. -TPT Footnotes

10 For on this mountain the hand of the LORD will rest, And Moab shall be trampled down under Him, As straw is trampled down for the refuse heap.

- The "mountain" referred here is Mount Zion in Jerusalem, from which David once ruled and from which the Messiah will rule in the future. – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnotes pg. 1065

And He will spread out His hands in their midst As a swimmer reaches out to swim,
And He will bring down their pride
Together with the trickery of their hands.
The fortress of the high fort of your walls
He will bring down, lay low,
And bring to the ground, down to the dust.