

We have made it to the last chapter of Isaiah. I commend you for staying with it until the end. You have presented yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the Word of Truth.

We know that since May 14, 1948, physical Israel has been back in the land God gave to their ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. All the way through this study, you know from my past writings, I have had the bothersome thought that spiritual and national Israel have not yet returned to the land even though they are there physically. Why do I think this? It is because they have not yet returned to God. I don't see a whole lot of Messianic Jews (those who believe Jesus to be the Messiah) in the land of Israel today, although their numbers are increasing. If the small numbers of Messianic Jews are the Remnant of today who will be caught up with the other Christians when Christ returns for His Church, then whom is Isaiah speaking about in this chapter? This Remnant will be born in a day. They will be brought forth all at once. As soon as Zion travailed, she also brought forth her sons. Is this time of travailing also known as the day of Jacob's trouble or the Day of the LORD? For those of you who have studied "the day of Jacob's trouble," also called the "day of the LORD" in Part 3 of this study, when will this time be?

Day 1 - Double-spaced Worksheet – Isaiah 66

Please mark the following words or ideas in your own unique way:

any reference to God, i.e., LORD and pronouns, "My glory"
any reference to creation, i.e., made, make, "all things came into being," with 1 marking
any reference to servant or Remnant, i.e., "this one," "who is humble and contrite of spirit" or "who trembles at My word," as one marking
any reference to priests or an idolater, i.e., "he who kills an ox," "He who sacrifices a lamb" as one marking
any reference to Zion including Jerusalem as one marking; also, "My holy mountain"
any reference to Israel
any reference to body parts for personification of Jerusalem, i.e., bountiful bosom, breasts
any reference to the nations
endure
mourn

Can you make any lists in the margins of the double-spaced worksheet for chapter 66 and in the spaces below?

Make a list of what those who forsake the LORD are like.

Make a list of what those who are God's servants are like.

Days 2-4 - Questions on Isaiah 66 – Finally, Jerusalem, the City of Comfort and Peace

Isaiah 66:1-2 refers to God's Throne being in heaven and God's footstool being the earth. Then God asks "where then is a house you could build for Me?" King Solomon built God a house when He constructed the first Temple. However, when Solomon dedicated the first Temple, he said this about it in 1 Kings 8:27, "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain Thee, how much less this house which I have built!" In the Millennial Kingdom there will be a New Temple on Mt. Zion where God's holy presence will be worshiped by all the peoples of the earth, but understand that God's desire goes beyond living confined to the four walls of a building, He ultimately desires to dwell in men's hearts. How could this possibly be? Men's hearts are tainted with sin. It is possible only by the cleansing, forgiving blood of God's sacrificial Lamb being shed for their sins. The Holy Spirit will then take up His residency within the human heart that believes and is "humble and contrite of spirit" and who trembles at (His) word.

In the day Isaiah wrote this chapter, were the people's hearts humble and contrite of spirit?

The people were anything but humble and contrite. Their worship was outward, but their hearts were inwardly cold. The people were not sacrificing animals brought to God in obedience for the remission of their sins. Instead Isaiah 66:3 tells us they were committing murder of these animals! How did God describe those who did such things in this verse?

What will be the punishment for those above and why will God punish them?

Who is Isaiah bidding to listen to the word of the LORD in Isaiah 66:5?

Isaiah is bidding those of Isaiah 66:2 who are humble and contrite of spirit and who tremble at His word to hear Him now in Isaiah 66:5. He tells them that their brothers hate them and those brothers will be put to shame.

Who are their brothers?

Their brothers are those whose hearts are cold against God. They are those who will be punished because God called them and they did not answer Him. In other words, they will be punished because God spoke to them and they did not listen to Him. Instead, they did evil in His sight; they chose that which did not delight God. They are God's servants whom God sought in chapter 65 (last week) yet they did not want Him. Is the fulfillment of this prophecy yet future to Isaiah's day or has it already happened?

Are some of the Jews of today part of this brotherhood that will be punished?

Are the Arab nations of today also part of this brotherhood that will be punished?

To what period of time is Isaiah 66:7 referring?

Read through Revelation 12. Who is John the Revelator referring to in this chapter? Is this the same woman who is in labor with the Messiah as portrayed in Isaiah 66:7?

Political Israel is back in the land today. Was she (the land) born in one day?

Will spiritual Israel be born in one day? See Zechariah chapters 12-14.

What will be the requirement of her birth?

What does God want from the Remnant by His statement to them in Isaiah 66:9?

What is the key word that is used in Isaiah 66:10 which gives these passages a dating in the time of Jacob's trouble? Think of passages in Zechariah 12-14.

What is the reward for those whom God sought and they desired Him in Isaiah 66:10-14? What good things will happen for Jerusalem according to Isaiah 66:7-14?

What bad things will happen to those whom God sought yet they did not desire Him according to Isaiah 66:14b-18?

Who are those referred to in Isaiah 66:19 who will be sent to the survivors of the nations who have not heard of God or of His glory? Check out a cross reference in Revelation 7:1-17.

If this time period of Isaiah 66 is at the end times, (that can include anything from just before the Tribulation to the Second Coming of the Messiah or even later into the Millennial Kingdom and beyond) then why will God take some of the Jewish brethren brought to Israel from other countries for the priesthood according to Isaiah 66:21? I thought the priests were responsible for making the sacrifices in the Temple and sacrifices will no longer be required, right?

There will be a Millennial Temple in Jerusalem and yes, Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice of Himself and there is no blood that can cover your sins, but His blood. However, the animal and grain offerings will be reinstated in the Millennial Kingdom. (Read Ezekiel 40-48.) At this time, in the Millennium, the animal sacrifices will be for memorial and not for the covering of sin.

Bonus Question: God's declaration in Isaiah 66:2 covers which two covenants that God has made?

Notice in Isaiah 66:23 that it shall be, "from new moon to new moon"...all mankind will come to bow down before Him. There will be no need for the sun in the Millennial Kingdom, because we will have His presence with us and it will be our source of light.

Will Jerusalem be at peace in this future day?

How can Jerusalem be at peace today? And, how can it be a place of comfort today? This is a trick question!

Day 5 – Personal Application for Isaiah 66

When we are obedient to pray for the peace of Jerusalem as we are told to do, do we have any hope of Jerusalem actually being at peace in our day?

Will we actually see the day when true Israel will be born?

Will we be on this earth when true Israel is born? Support your answer with Scripture.

Why would God require those of us, who will be with Him on the day true Israel will be born, to be praying for the peace of Jerusalem so far in advance of it actually happening?

Where will you be during the Millennial Kingdom? We looked at this in Isaiah Part 3. If you cannot remember, go back to your notes.

How has this course opened your eyes to your future, to the future of Israel, and to the future of the Gentile nations?

What do you need to do to get ready for your future?

Do you need to accept Jesus as your Savior?

Do you need to place your life under His authority?

Do you need to be obedient to His call on your life?

Do you need to rest in the knowledge that He alone did what God required for your salvation?

Please write the theme of Isaiah 66 on the double-spaced worksheet for this chapter and on the Isaiah-Theme-Summary chart found in the Appendix.

Next week, we will do a summary of this section in Isaiah Part 7. During our discussion time we will look at our Isaiah-Theme-Summary chart for the entire book of Isaiah. Now would be a good time for you to go over all your themes for all the chapters and see if you can put them into some pattern. I am so proud of each one of you for staying the course and delighting in God's word. I know that He will not disappoint you. In Him we have deliverance, salvation. And in Him, we have the comfort of knowing that He is with us forever and He has revealed to us what lies ahead for us. What an exciting time it will be. We've only really seen a glimpse of it, but it's enough of a taste to whet our appetite for more. And we will have much, much more!

WORSHIP: ACCORDING TO BABEL OR ACCORDING TO GOD'S WAYS

Are you your own master or are you God's bondservant?

Those who forsake the LORD are capable of:	Because they forsake/transgress the LORD, God will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -murder of ox, man, lamb, dog, swine 66:3 -idolatry: praying, burning incense, offering grain & swine's blood, sacrifice of ox, man, lamb, dog to other gods -cruelty: to animals, to Man -breaking the law -killing an ox, slaying a man 66:3 (pretending priest of God) -sacrificing a lamb, breaking a dog's neck 66:3 (pretending priest of God) -offering grain offering, offering swine's blood 66:3 (pretending priest of God, actual priest of idol) -choosing their own ways, delighting in their own abominations 66:3 -ignoring God, not listening to Him when He speaks 66:4 -doing evil in God's sight; choosing to delight in that which God does not 66:4 -hating God's servants & excluding them b/c they are associated w/ God's name 66:5 -preparing themselves to worship their idols in their own ways of purification & sanctification 66:17 -following the leader in the center of idolatrous worship, eating swine's blood, detestable things, & mice 66:17 -transgressing the LORD 66:24 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -choose their punishment 66:4 -bring what they dread upon them 66:4 -put them to shame (those who hate the LORD's people 66:5) -render recompense upon them, His enemies 66:6 -be indignant towards them 66:14 -cause them to experience His anger in His fury & His rebuke in the flames of fire 66:15 -execute judgment on them by fire and slay some of them by His sword 66:16 -cause them to come to their end all together 66:17 -cause their corpses to be an abhorrence to all mankind 66:24 -give them a body to endure eternal fire & continuous eating of the worm 66:24 <p>Isaiah 1:27-31 "Zion will be redeemed with justice, and her repentant ones with righteousness. But transgressors and sinners will be crushed together, and those who forsake the LORD shall come to an end. Surely, you will be ashamed of the oaks which you have desired, and you will be embarrassed at the gardens which you have chosen. For you will be like an oak whose leaf fades away, or as a garden that has no water. And the strong man will become tinder, His work also a spark. <u>Thus they shall both burn together, And there will be none to quench them.</u>"</p>
<p align="center">Those who worship according to Babel are their own master; they forsake the LORD</p>	

WORSHIP: ACCORDING TO BABEL OR ACCORDING TO GOD'S WAYS

Are you your own master or are you God's bondservant?

Isaiah 66

Part 7

Lesson 9-2

Those who are God's servants are:	Because they are God's servants, they:
<p>-the ones whom He will look to 66:2 -humble 66:2 -contrite of spirit 66:2 -associated w/ God's name; hated by those who forsake the LORD 66:5 -the survivors (the Remnant) who have broken away from idolatry 66:17</p>	<p>Isaiah 66 -will tremble at His word 66:2 -(in the last days, for Jerusalem) will mourn 66:10 will be given joy, rejoicing, & gladness for Jerusalem 66:10 will be given satisfaction, comfort and delight in Jerusalem 66:10 will know Jerusalem to be given an extension of peace 66:12 will know Jerusalem to be given the overflow of the glory of the nations 66:12 will experience comfort in the city of Jerusalem 66:13 will see all of this & be glad 66:14 will see all of this & their bones will flourish like new grass 66:14 will see all of this & know that it is God's hand that has accomplished it 66:14 -will be sent to the nations of the world to proclaim God's presence (glory) in Jerusalem 66:19 -(all Remnant sent to other nations & all those from the nations who come to Jerusalem as a result) will offer grain offerings to God 66:20 -(some of Remnant sent to other nations & some of those from the nations who come to Jerusalem as a result) will become priests, Levites 66:21 -and their offspring & their name will endure before God forever 66:22 -(all) will bow down before God every day of the MK 66:23 Rev 7 -those who take Gospel to nations will be sealed on forehead in GT as sign -those who come out of Tribulation, will wear white robes in heaven before God's throne Rev 19-those who are Bondservants, great & small, are the Bride of Christ, & will return with JC at His 2nd coming & will dwell on the earth in the MK Zech 12-14-those who are the 1/3 who come thru GT will be saved & purified for day of salvation Rev 12-those Jews who saw His birth & believed were the 1st Christians 66:7; Jerusalem brought forth sons 66:8 -those who are of the Remnant will be supernaturally protected in the place God prepares for them in the wilderness Ezek 40-48-some of those who make it thru GT & are saved & on into the MK; will be as priests & Levites to LORD - sacrificial system reinstated as a memorial.</p>
<p>-Man more technologically advanced now leads to more independence from God; our culture runs independently of God & away from God - Is our Babel-the New Babylon- our technology-driven economies? -Genesis 11:1-9 -For Christians: no matter what we do, if we do it in our own strength, it or we will ultimately fail vs. no matter what we do, if God is the source and the giver of blessing & we follow Him, we or it cannot fail to bring glory to God, i.e., Jim Elliott: even in his death, God glorified -Christ even said, not My will, but Thine be done - Luke 22:42 Don't be anxious & thus be subject to your perceived action of necessity to do it your way; wait on God & see what He will do - Isaiah 40:31; Isaiah 41:10 -For me: I cannot rush ahead of Him - He won't let me! He has a tight grip on me & He orders my steps & I will walk in them; practically, what do I do? He has obviously shut me down during this time period, should I actively continue to look for a job?</p>	