

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 06 Sept	Isaiah 01-05	God Comforts
2) 13 Sept	Isaiah 06	God Sends
3) 20 Sept	Isaiah 07-22	God Promises
4) 27 Sept	Isaiah 23-24	God Reigns
5) 04 Oct	Isaiah 25-30	God Saves
6) 11 Oct	Isaiah 31-36	God Protects
7) 18 Oct	Isaiah 37-39	God Listens
8) 25 Oct	Isaiah 40-45	God Renews
9) 01 Nov	Isaiah 46-48	God Acts
10) 08 Nov	Isaiah 49-52	God Comforts
11) 15 Nov	Isaiah 53-57	God Justifies
12) 22 Nov	Isaiah 58-64	God Expects
13) 29 Nov	Isaiah 65-66	God Restores

INTRODUCTION

- Many of the prophecies seem to allude to the end of the Millennial reign of Christ when all the wicked are finally removed from the old earth and tossed into Hell for all eternity, and the start of the new Heaven and Earth when Israel and the world enjoy real peace

Lifeway's ETB Focus: **Isaiah 25:1-10a**

Passage	Comments
Isaiah 25:1-12	<p>Eternity Awaits with Feasting, Drinking, & No Death/Tears</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This chapter seems to be set in the eternal New Heaven & Earth (i.e., post-Millennium) v6. A lavish banquet is prepared for ALL peoples on "this mountain", Zion. It will have "aged wine", prime steak, and "refined wine" – So much for being a teetotaler. This could be the "marriage supper of the Lamb" in Rev 19:7. v8. No more death for all time → and no more tears Gill's commentary states this feast allegorically represents the Gospel being fully & freely given to all nations v4. God has been a defense for the helpless & needy How do we answer skeptics when they can point out that God must be a poor defender since many helpless & needy have suffered & died horribly since Abel's murder? Consider this. Yes, in this sinful world God has allowed the wicked to harm and even physically kill the righteous, but this passage alludes to God's ultimate defense of the righteous in their eternal state. Nothing and no one can separate us from the love of God..... Rom 8:38-39
26:1-21	<p>In That Day → Let's Sing This Song!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v1 & v21. "That Day" could allude to Christ's triumphant destruction of the wicked at the end of the Millennium Rev 19 This Song has several contrasting perspectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v7. The way of the righteous is smooth and easy vv17-18. The righteous struggle in pain, only to pass gas v9. When sinners receive judgment, they begin to obey v10. When sinners receive grace, they don't learn to obey v14. The dead will not live or rise from the dead v19. The dead will live & corpses will rise from the dead These contrasting passages reflect troubled times for all, even for believers, though God's return is imminent This song also expresses wisdom for the righteous <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v3. God gives "perfect peace" when we trust Him even in very troubled times.....Php 4:7 v8. The righteous eagerly wait, seek, and desire God v20. It's OK for the righteous to hide from evil.....Prov 22:3
27:1-13	<p>In That Day → The Lord Will Punish the "Fleeing Serpent"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv1-9. This particular day could allude to the transition period between the Millennium and the new Heaven and Earth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Leviathan/fleeing serpent, possibly Satan, will be killed/slain/destroyed by the Lord, himself. If this is Satan, he meets his eternal destruction in Hell..... Rev 20:7-10 vv6-13. When "that day" finally arrives, the world will see: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v6. Israel will fill the whole world with fruit v9. All of Israel's sins will be totally forgiven v13. Arabs will worship the Lord in Jerusalem.... Zech 9:23

Passage	Comments
28:1-29	<p>In That Day → The Lord Will Become a Glorious Crown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We oscillate between Isaiah's contemporary time period, the Messianic period of the 1st Century, and the Eternal state v6. One day Israel will finally see their Lord as King of kings vv7-8. It is sad when sheep are led by wayward shepherds. How can believers challenge wayward shepherds? Or should sheep just leave and find another flock/church? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall what Jesus did when His hometown church went hostile on Him? He went to another church..... Lk 4:16-32 vv9-10. God wants to teach us deeper things. Have we been weaned from the basics?..... 1Cor 3:2; Heb 5:12-13; 1Pet 2:2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are those deeper things? <input type="checkbox"/> Counseling Others <input type="checkbox"/> Able to give adequate answers to tough questions: i.e., creation vs evolution; sanctity of marriage; <input type="checkbox"/> Other topics vv11-20. Bed is too short (cliché for 'you made your bed, now sleep in it'). If all we want to hear is a salvation message each week, then don't expect to grow beyond John 3:16; and sad to say, life will not be as rewarding/fruital as it could be
29:1-24	<p>Tough Prophecies for God's Very Own People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv1-4. God will even bring distress/disasters/destruction on His own children (Israel) if they forsake Him vv5-8. Nations who fight against Israel struggle to feed themselves (e.g., Arab nations that have harassed Israel) v13. God's own people give Him lip service..... Mrk 7:6,7 vv18-19. BUT "on that day" the deaf will hear and the blind will see. Words from Jesus Christ to JTB..... Mt 11:5 v24. BUT one day those who error will come to their senses Those days seem to begin in the Millennium
30:1-33	<p>More Tough Prophecies for God's Very Own People – Who Most Are Really Not His People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv1-14. Israel's wicked ones liked to add sin to sin – They go from bad to worse. Not all Israel are saved. Rom 2:28-29; 9:6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider this. Israel's saved ones were always a small remnant (~10%, Isaiah 6:13). Hopefully, saved ones in most Christian churches should be in the majority (~90%) v15. God wanted to save them, but they were not willing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminiscent of what Jesus told His contemporaries. He, too, wanted to save them, but they were not willing to come to Him on His terms..... John 5:40 vv18-24. The Lord still waits for his prodigal child to return v20. There comes a day God will no longer hide Himself vv25-33. The day of the Great slaughter shall include a Sun 7x brighter (Possibly alluding to the end of the Millennium) <p>Why does God hide himself?.....Isaiah 1:15; 30:20; 45:15; 57:17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider this. God hides Himself for several reasons – predominately for sin (Deut 31:17; Isa 1:15; 54:8), but also for testing (Job 13:24) God hides from the wicked who see no profit in serving Him (Mal 3:14); & from corrupt leaders so their nation(s) will crumble (Micah 3:6-7) God reveals Himself to those who diligently seek Him (1Chron 28:9; Heb 11:6), and God will reveal himself to all nations one day (Ezek 39:7).

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- Believers may have some tough days as we await the Rapture of the Lord's Church, but we can take comfort God is still able to use us and we can still produce fruit for all eternity.

NEXT WEEK: Isaiah 31-36. God promises to deliver Israel out of all of her woes; the Messiah's glorious reign is foretold; Israel's enemies will be annihilated, and Jerusalem will be a place to go to for healings.

