Redeemed of the Lord

Isaiah 62:6-12 By Scott Huckaby 12/17/2023



Isaiah 62:6-12 (NIV)

⁶I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the Lord, give yourselves no rest, ⁷ and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth. 8 The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: "Never again will I give your grain as food for your enemies, and never again will foreigners drink the new wine for which you have toiled; 9 but those who harvest it will eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather the grapes will drink it in the courts of my sanctuary." ¹⁰ Pass through, pass through the gates! Prepare the way for the people. Build up, build up the highway! Remove the stones. Raise a banner for the nations. ¹¹ The Lord has made proclamation to the ends of the earth: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your Savior comes! See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. " 12 They will be called the Holy People, the Redeemed of the Lord; and you will be called Sought After, the City No Longer Deserted.

v6 – Why would God post His watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem?

Because God loves and rejoices over Zion, He will protect them. Though they were conquered before by the Babylonians, the day will come when He makes Jerusalem *a praise in the earth* (v7).

How will Jerusalem be a praise in the earth?

This will be where the Lord resides to rule the earth. And people will recognize that it was Israel who brought us God's Word and the Messiah.

Will the Bible still be studied during the Millennium when Jesus' words will be reported daily in the news?

Even more so. Jesus will make many references to Scripture as He did during the First Advent. And He said:

Matthew 24:35 – Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

v6-7 – What do God's watchmen do?

These watchmen never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent, and give Him no rest till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth. The watchmen are not critics; they are prayer warriors, who constantly pray, giving God "no rest" until God's people and His city are restored.

- The Lord Himself does not rest with regard to Zion
- He does not want His petitioners to keep silence in their prayers for Israel
- He does not want His people to leave Him alone concerning Israel's deliverance.

What is the principle here that applies to us today?

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 – Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

We too should pray without ceasing

What does it mean to pray without ceasing?

- Pray always (Luke 18:1). Not just during church meetings or before meals, but in every occasion about the simplest of things. There are no details too small for God; there is nothing in our lives that is a big deal for Him. We need not wait until we can assume a particular posture in order to pray, God is omniscient and knows what we think so speaking to Him is as simple as directing our thoughts to Him.
- Pray everywhere (1 Timothy 2:8). Christians have bemoaned the attack on prayer in public schools. But taking public, congregational prayer away does not take prayer away. The restricting of public prayer in schools is merely a symptom of a bigger issue, society turning further away from God. The most important kind of prayer we do is personal prayers (Matthew 6:5-6). No one can take that from us. God wants us to exercise that right no matter where we are.

Why don't we pray more?

- We get distracted by the world
- We have and independent spirit thinking we don't need the Lord
- We think God doesn't care about the little things
- We've had too many unanswered prayers

Why do we have unanswered prayers?

We don't always ask with the right motive...

James 4:3 – You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. God knows our selfish motivations even when we deny them. A better motivation is to see God glorified in what we pray about.

v8 – By Whom has the Lord sworn by?

By His Son Jesus the Messiah...

Hebrews 10:12-13 – But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.

v8-9 - What did the Lord promise?

No more will Jerusalem be plundered by those who would steal her grain or new wine. Instead, those who have gathered it shall eat it, and praise the LORD.

When will people fully benefit from the fruit of their own labor?

During the Millennial Kingdom...

Isaiah 65:21-22 – They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat;

We have had a foreshadowing of this in history but it will be enhanced during the Millennial Kingdom because the most of the curse will be removed and God's justice will be the norm, not the exception like today.

What is the sanctuary where the grape gatherers will drink the new wine?

The temple. Both grain and wine are mentioned here... perhaps they will be observing the Lord's Supper in remembrance of Him in the temple.

v10 – What is this highway God is calling to be built up?

This is the highway pilgrims will take to Jerusalem during the Millennial Kingdom...

Isaiah 35:8 – A highway shall be there, and a road, and it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, but it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, shall not go astray.

What is this banner for the nations?

This will be the national flag of Israel... Not only must the way be prepared, but they will also be attracted to come.

• It may be a new flag or even the current one.

v11 – How has God declared that Jerusalem's Savior is coming?

Through the Scriptures and by the Lord Himself...

Hebrews 1:1-2 – God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son

What reward is with the Messiah when He comes?

The spiritual renewal of the nation of Israel (and the faithful Gentile remnant) as well as the blessings of the Millennial Kingdom.

Revelation 22:12 – And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

Is Revelation 22:12 advocating salvation-by-works?

No, it is talking about rewards which are works-based. Salvation is by grace through faith (believing God).

1 Corinthians 3:8 – Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

The Bema Seat judgment of believers will be of our works along with our motivation (why we did what we did) for the purpose of Millennial Kingdom and eternal rewards.

v12 – Why will Jerusalem *be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken*?

Through her history, Jerusalem knew what it was like to be Forsaken. But in that day, everyone will know she was valued and chosen by God...

Zechariah 8:23 – Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you."

With that response to the Lord's rule during the Millennial Kingdom, it is easy to see why:

Habakkuk 2:14 – For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

What applications come to mind from our discussion?

- God wants us to pray without ceasing; we need to pray more, not less.
- Jesus' people will receive rewards when He comes.