

The Lord's Judgment of the Whole Earth ~ Part 2

Yesha'yahu 24:13-23

In my last post, we began to learn about **The Lord's Judgment of the Whole Earth ~ Part 1** in **Yesha'yahu 24:1-12**. In this post, we continue exploring **The Lord's Judgment of the Whole Earth ~ Part 2** in **Yesha'yahu 24:13-23**.

¹³ Around the earth, among the peoples, it will be as when beating an olive tree, as when gleaning the grapes at the end of the harvest.

A harvested olive tree or a grapevine after the harvest had only a few olives or grapes. So, the cities of the nations will have just a few people left when God's judgment falls.

¹⁴ They lift their voices, singing for joy, shouting from the west to honor Adonai. ¹⁵ So in the east, honor Adonai; in the coastlands, honor the name of Adonai, the God of Isra'el. ¹⁶ From the farthest part of the earth, we have heard them sing, "Glory to the Righteous One!" But, I say, I'm wasting away, I am wasting away! Woe to me! Traitors betray! Oh, how the traitors betray and betray!

As seen throughout Scripture, even in judgment, God shows mercy, for here, a remnant is saved who will praise Him both for His mercy and His majesty. The remnant celebrated the downfall of the wicked described in the previous verses.

Yesha'yahu (the first-person speaker in verse 16b) does not join the chorus of celebration. Perhaps he was horrified by the destruction or, more likely, by the depth of the transgression of the nations.

¹⁷ Terror, pit, and trap are upon you, you who are living on earth. ¹⁸ He who flees at the sound of terror will fall into the pit. He who climbs up out of the pit will be caught in the trap. For the windows above have been opened, and the earth's foundations shake.

The words ***terror, pit, and trap*** play on the similarity of sound of three words in Hebrew. They stand for the judgment that God has prepared for the sinful inhabitants of the earth. The open windows of the sky imply rain and suggest a devastating flood. The shaking foundations would be experienced as earthquakes.

So all-encompassing is this judgment that there is nowhere to hide.

¹⁹ The earth cracks and breaks open, the earth crumbles to pieces, the earth trembles and totters. ²⁰ The earth staggers to and fro like a drunk, sways back and forth like a watchman's shelter; its transgression weighs heavy upon it; it will fall and not rise again.

As you may have observed, a ***drunk*** cannot think or stand straight. This judgment is connected to rebellion against God by virtually all people on earth. Revelation 8 says even mountains will be cast into the sea.

²¹ When that day comes, Adonai will punish the armies of the high heaven on high and the kings of the earth here on earth.

The phrase ***when that day comes*** points to a future but unspecified time. God's judgment is extensive. It covers not only the earth but also the host of heaven, a phrase that either indicates the stars or fallen angels.

²² They will be assembled like prisoners in a dungeon and shut up in prison to be punished many years.

Verses 21 and 22 refer to the rulers in high places - demonic spirits. As the **Tribulation** comes to an end, **HaSatan** and his demons will be cast into a pit for a thousand years. Then, following the thousand-year period of peace and prosperity when **Yeshua** reigns from **Yerushalayim**, God will loose **HaSatan** and his demons — giving them one last chance to deceive the people.

²³ Then the moon will be confused and the sun ashamed, for Adonai-Tzva'ot will rule on Mount Tziyon and in Yerushalayim, with his glory manifest to the rulers of his people. Isaiah 24:13-23 (CJB)

Even the moon and sun will pale in comparison with the brilliant light emanating from God as He exercises His sovereign rule from the temple.

In my next post, we will continue to explore **The Lord's Judgment of the Whole Earth ~ Pat 3** in **Yesha'yahu 25:1-12**.