

Session 10 Jesus' Leadership in the Millennium (Isa. 2)

I. OVERVIEW OF THE MESSIAH IN THE FIRST SECTION OF ISAIAH (ISA. 1-12)

- A. Four passages in the first section of the book of Isaiah (Isa. 1-12) should be read together, since they build upon one another in describing the glory of Jesus and Jerusalem in the Millennium—Isaiah 2, 4, 9, and 11.
- B. Isaiah 2 emphasizes the ***glory of Jerusalem***—the city of the great King (Mt. 5:35). It is the Lord's "Mountain-City-House." The first capital city with authority over all nations, it will rest on top of a mountain and will itself be as high as a mountain. Isaiah 2 mentions its size (height) and impact, though it does not describe the King or the quality of His leadership (as in Isaiah 4, 9, and 11).
- C. Isaiah 4 highlights the ***beauty of the King and His city*** that is "crowned" with God's glory.
- D. Isaiah 9 gives details about the ***King Himself***—the One who is fully God and fully man, manifesting His eternal leadership as the wonderful counselor who possesses mighty power and a father's tender heart, who fills the nations with peace and justice (Isa. 9:6-9).
- E. Isaiah 11 describes the ***quality of the King's anointed leadership*** characterized by justice and righteousness and how He will accomplish significant things for Israel and the nations.

II. JESUS' LEADERSHIP OVER THE NATIONS (ISAIAH 2)

- A. Isaiah 2 emphasizes the ***glory of Jerusalem*** as the Lord's "Mountain-City-House" that will be as vast as a mountain while also resting on top of a mountain. Isaiah mentions its size (height) and impact. The main content of this prophecy is also seen in Micah 4:1-5.
²Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it [Jerusalem]. ³Many people [Gentiles] shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He [Jesus] will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He [Jesus] shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. (Isa. 2:2-4)
- B. ***Latter days***: Isaiah prophesied of a reality that will surely come to pass, but not until the latter days (v. 2). The *latter days* can speak of the *last days* that began on the day of Pentecost and continue through church history, or it can speak specifically of the millennial kingdom. The promises seen in Isaiah 2 have some fulfillment in the Church age as the nations stream to Jesus to learn His ways.
¹⁷At that time [millennial kingdom] Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. (Jer. 3:17)

- C. **The Lord's house:** I believe that “the mountain of the Lord's house” speaks of Jesus' millennial throne, temple, and house (v. 2-3). I refer to it as His “Mountain-City-House.” It will rest on the top of the mountains, being exalted above the hills. Jerusalem will be God's dwelling place on earth—His house or resting place (Isa. 11:10).

²*The mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills...³Many people shall...go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. (Isa. 2:2-3)*

¹*The mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills. (Mic. 4:1)*

²*In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city. (Ezek. 40:2)*

1. “Mountain” in the Scripture sometimes speaks symbolically of a nation or government (Dan. 2:35; Amos 4:1). Therefore the exaltation of the mountain of the LORD's house symbolically could speak of His victory over all false religions and gods.
2. Jerusalem and the land around it will become as flat as a plain, while also physically elevated to make it the perfect place to establish the new world capital—Jerusalem. The topography of Jesus' capital city Jerusalem will be drastically changed from what it is today (Zech. 14:10). The region will be greatly altered, both leveled and raised, or elevated, to a height that surpasses all the other mountains. An earthquake may bring these changes. Geba was six miles north of Jerusalem, and Rimmon was thirty-five miles southwest.

¹⁰*All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba [northern Judah] to Rimmon south of Jerusalem [southern Judah]. Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place. (Zech. 14:10)*

²*“Speak comfort to Jerusalem...she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³...Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low. (Isa. 40:2-4)*

3. The heavenly Jerusalem will descend to the earthly Jerusalem, “connecting” the two Jerusalems (Rev. 3:12; 21:2, 10; cf. Ps. 48:1-2; Gal. 4:26; Heb. 11:10, 16; 12:22-23; 13:14).
¹²*“...the New Jerusalem, which comes down [to earth] out of heaven...” (Rev. 3:12)*

4. Jesus' throne will be *both* in the millennial temple *and* in the heavenly New Jerusalem. It will be *one throne with two expressions* (Jer. 3:17; Ezek. 43:4-7; Zech. 6:12-13; Rev. 22:3).

³*The throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it [the New Jerusalem]. (Rev. 22:3)*

⁶*I heard Him speaking to me from the temple [millennial temple]...⁷He said, “This is the place of My throne..., where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever.” (Ezek. 43:6-7)*

5. Jesus' *throne of glory* (Mt. 19:28; 25:31; Rev. 4) has an expression in both Jerusalems. It may be a vast "governmental complex" including the millennial temple structure on earth (Ezek. 43) and the vast "throne room" of the Father and Son in the New Jerusalem (Rev. 4). I picture the possibility of a governmental complex with the "north end" extending into the New Jerusalem and the "south end" based in the millennial temple in Jerusalem.
- a. Jesus' throne can be compared to a "Mountain-City-House" as His resting place (Isa. 11:10).
²⁸*"...in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory... (Mt. 19:28)*
- b. Moses prophesied of Israel being planted in God's "mountain" in the place of His sanctuary (Ex. 15:17).
¹⁷*You will bring them in and plant them in the mountain of Your inheritance [Jerusalem], in the place, O LORD, which You have made for Your own dwelling, the sanctuary...* (Ex. 15:17)
- D. **All nations:** The leaders and people of all nations will flow to Jerusalem (v. 2) as a river that never stops. It will be the first capital city with authority over every nation (Jer. 3:17). King Jesus will be worshiped in Jerusalem by people from all nations (Zech. 2:11; 8:20-23; 14:16-18).
²*And all nations shall flow to it [Jerusalem]. ³Many people [Gentiles] shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD..." (Isa. 2:2-3)*
¹⁷*And all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. (Jer. 3:17)*
¹⁶*It shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations... shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD... ¹⁷It shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain. (Zech. 14:16-17)*
- E. **Teach:** Jesus will teach the nations His ways (applied to spiritual, political, educational, and agricultural spheres, family, media, arts, technology, economics, etc.). Jesus will be seen as the "greater than Solomon" and will again astonish the people with His teaching (Mk. 1:22; Lk. 11:31).
³*Many people [Gentiles] shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD ...He will teach us His ways, and we [the nations] shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (Isa. 2:3)*
²²*They were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority. (Mk. 1:22)*
- F. **He shall judge:** Jesus shall judge or make significant decisions to settle the disputes between the nations, and He shall rebuke many people (Isa. 2:4). The nations will use their money for agricultural purposes and equipment (plows and pruning hooks) instead of sustaining the military (military schools or bases). There will be no fear of war because of Jesus' good leadership.
⁴*He [Jesus] shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. (Isa. 2:4)*

III. THE BEAUTY OF JESUS (ISA. 4)

- A. Isaiah 4 highlights the *beauty of the King and His city* that is “crowned” with God’s glory.

²*In that day the Branch of the LORD [Jesus] shall be beautiful and glorious; and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and appealing for those of Israel who have escaped.* ³*And it shall come to pass that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy...* ⁴*When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning,* ⁵*then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion [the temple], and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there will be a covering.* ⁶*And there will be a tabernacle for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain. (Isa. 4:1-6)*

- B. *The branch of the Lord* is a term for the Messiah (Isa. 4:2; Jer. 23:5; 33:15; Zech. 3:8; 6:12). Isaiah emphasizes that Jesus will be seen by the nations as beautiful and glorious. The Lord of Isaiah 2:2-4 who teaches and judges the nations possesses indescribable beauty.

¹⁷*Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; they will see the land that is very far off. (Isa. 33:17)*

⁵*In that day the LORD of hosts [Jesus] will be for a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty to the remnant of His people. (Isa. 28:5)*

⁷*“I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations [Jesus], and I will fill this temple with glory,” says the LORD of hosts. (Hag 2:7)*

- C. Some characteristics of millennial Jerusalem and the New Jerusalem seem to overlap. Jesus’ throne of glory appears to include a convergence of *two Jerusalems* (both with twelve gates), two *holy of holies* (in the temples), two *gardens* like Eden with two *rivers of life*, two *trees of life* (with fruits every month), and a *cloud of glory*, shining *fire*, and *smoke* (manifestations of glory).

IV. THE GOVERNMENT WILL REST ON HIS SHOULDERS (ISA. 9)

- A. Isaiah 9 gives details about the *King Himself*—the One who is fully God and fully man, manifesting His eternal leadership as the wonderful counselor who possesses mighty power and a father’s tender heart, who fills the nations with peace and justice (Isa. 9:6-9).

⁶*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son [heir] is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.* ⁷*Of the increase of His [Jesus’] government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (Isa. 9:6-9)*

- B. Jesus’ rule will progressively increase until all the institutions of all the nations are fully disciplined by His teachings (Isa. 16:5; 60:3; Jer. 23:5; cf. Ps. 89:4; 132:17-18). Jesus will “order and establish” His kingdom with the necessary infrastructure for every sphere of life in every city.