

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: Isaiah, Part 1 (Judgment – But Hope)

TITLE: Program 61 – The Lord Is My Treasure

MONDAY

OPEN

Is care occupying your mind? Are you fearful of all the terrorism that is going on in the world? And do you wonder, “How are we going to live? How are going to make it? How are we going to survive?” O Precious One, I have a very precious word for you today, and that is this: “...[That the Lord is] **the stability of your times...the fear of the LORD is [your] treasure.**” (Isaiah 33:6) You can handle the terror.

PART ONE

It seems incongruous, doesn't it, when the sun is shining and terror is filling our lives? As I was looking out the window, I was thinking about April in the year 2007, when a man went on the Virginia Tech campus and shot and killed 32 people, and then killed himself. If you remember that time, if you turned on the news, you hear them talking about, “How did this happen?” and “Why didn't you shut the school down?” And they were talking about the worst tragedy that we had had in a single act of not terrorism, but just

murder—revenge. We didn't even know the reason for it all. They just knew that people were riddled with bullets; that this man killed someone in the dorms, and then he went to the classrooms, and he walked into the classrooms and he would just put two and three bullets in every single person. He left blood all over the place and then he turned and put that gun to his own body and just made himself unrecognizable. He had no identification on him at all, and all of sudden they were talking: "Is it safe on the campuses?" "What are we going to do?" "What about gun control?" Because all of a sudden, terror had stricken our hearts; terror that came on a very wonderful campus, a very peaceful campus. O Beloved, you and I need to realize that there will be hearts that will be meditating on terror. They will be thinking about terror, and when you think about terror, when you live in the fear of terror, when you're afraid of a destroyer, when you're suspicious of somebody that is out to do you in, it can strike fear in your heart. And it can bring a sunny day to an overcast day, a day full of dark shadows that cause you all sorts of chilling and fear, and the joy of life is gone. As I say all that, I'm saying it in the light of our study today. This week we are going to look at Isaiah chapter 33, 34 and 35. And as we look at them, our theme all week is going to be from Isaiah chapter 33, verse 6. And I want to remind you now that we do have a free study guide that you can download on the book of Isaiah. We want you to understand truth. We want you to discover for yourself, and so you can go to <preceptsforlife.com>, <preceptsforlife.com> and you can download that free study guide. And by the way, while you're there, I would love to hear from you. I would love to hear from you, and I want to thank you because this program is kept on the air through your gifts. You know the Bible says in Galatians chapter 6, that those that are taught are to share good things with their teachers. It's not with me personally, but it's with this ministry, with Precept Ministries International. We're in 149 countries. We are in 70 languages, and all over the world and across the United States, and in Canada and other places. We

are helping people discover truth for yourself, and listen, if the Lord is going to be the stability of your times, and that is our theme this week. He's the One that can keep you on an even keel when everything around you is in absolute chaos. When your heart is smitten or stricken with fear, if you know the Word of God, if you know that you know, if you have discovered truth for yourself; then the Lord will be the stability of your times. So thank you for being part of this ministry. Thank you for helping us reach others so that they might know truth, and so that we might help people uh to know God so that they don't live this way. Well I want us to look at that key verse in Isaiah chapter 33, in verse 6. And it says, **"And He will be the stability of your times, a wealth of salvation, wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is his treasure."** (Isaiah 33:6) The way that you're going to be able to live so that you don't focus on terror (because things are going to get worse, if they're bad now, they're gonna get worse and I'm gonna show you that in just a minute), but the way, Precious One, that you don't focus on that and you stay stable is, to know that God is in control and to live accordingly. Now for me to respect God for who He is, for me to treasure and trust God, is to fear the Lord. **"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom...."** (Psalms 111:10) And so this is where you need to find your treasure. You need to find your treasure in the fear of the Lord. Look at the verse again. **"...The fear of the LORD is His treasure."** (Isaiah 33:6) It's getting to know God so that you respect Him. Fear is a respect and a reverential trust for God. It's knowing that God is God. That He means what He says, He says what He means, and He can be fully trusted, and that He is in charge of the times. And so even though terror and all these things are going on, you and I can walk in perfect peace. So our prayer is to be, in chapter 33, verse 2. And it says: **"O LORD, be gracious to us; [for] we have waited for You. Be their strength...,**" or be our strength, **"...every morning..."** Be my strength every morning. **"...Our salvation also in the time of distress."** (Isaiah 33:2) God can be your salvation in any time of distress, and after I

taught this, by the way, I teach here at Precept Ministries in Chattanooga Tennessee. We have our headquarters and we have, like a conference grounds and so people come, we're not lavish, we're not extravagant because we want our money to count, and so we're very careful where we put it. But we have a very nice facility. So if you're ever in Chattanooga, Tennessee, please stop by and see us. Please have a tour of the ministry. Well I teach on Tuesday mornings. And as I teach these people, I've already taught them what, basically, I'm going to teach you this week. And people came up to me afterwards and they were sharing with me, "That lesson, that lesson, it's because I know God that I was able to handle this." And one woman was saying, "You haven't seen me because my husband divorced me after 31 years of marriage, but Kay, I want you to know, I was able to make it. I have survived because you taught me how to discover truth for myself." And then another one shared something with me that was a real shocker, and it was a real shocker to her, but she's making it because the Lord is the stability of her times, because the fear of the Lord, the trust of the Lord, is her treasure. And she waits on God and she knows that God is her salvation every single morning. And that's what I want you to get this week. All right, now in the light of that, what I want to show you is, that you and I, because of the times in which we're living, can expect it to get worse. And we need to know that. It doesn't need to be a shock to you or a surprise to you. Go to 2 Timothy in your Bible. And it comes before Hebrews, and 2 Timothy is Paul's last epistle that he wrote to his son Timothy before he was taken and executed by Rome because of the gospel of Jesus Christ. And he writes to him in chapter 3, verse 1, **"But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come."** (2 Timothy 3:1) Now when we're studying Isaiah, Isaiah is letting the people know—he's the prophet and he's speaking to Judah and Jerusalem—and he's letting them know difficult days are coming. Difficult days are coming, and so as Paul was writing to Timothy, so Isaiah was being God's messenger to the nation of Israel. Well what does it tell us in 2

Timothy chapter 3, in verse 2? It says, “**...men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal [brutal]....**” (2 Timothy 3:2-3) This man that walked in and killed all those people at Virginia Tech was brutal. Absolutely brutal! And it wasn’t one bullet, it was just “get as many people as you can.” He’d try to get into a room then block the room, he’d force the door open a certain amount of inches and try to get through that door. He was brutal. It says, “**...haters of good, treacherous....**” (2 Timothy 3:3-4) Now if you did your study you know, “**Woe to...[the] treacherous....**,” (Isaiah 33:1) that’s the way chapter 33 of Isaiah opens up. “**Treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding...a form of godliness....**” (2 Timothy 3:4-5) Or listen to this: “**...holding...[a] form of religion....**” (2 Timothy 3:5, HCSB) What does that tell you? We’ll talk about it in just a minute.

PART TWO

Welcome back, Beloved. Well as we look at chapter 33, we are seeing that God is saying: “**Woe to...[the] destroyer....**” (Isaiah 33:1) “**Woe to...[the] treacherous....**” (Isaiah 33:1) And then he is talking about the Lord being “**...the stability of [our] times... [and] the fear of the LORD [being our] treasure.**” (Isaiah 33:6) The stability of our times, to take us through a period of time that is going to be very difficult. Now He’s telling them about that difficult time in Isaiah because God, in righteousness, has to judge sin. Because God in righteousness is going to bring judgment upon the earth when He’s going to rescue the faithful remnant. He’s going to rescue those that trust in Him. Well I left you in 2 Timothy chapter 3. I jumped all the way from Isaiah to 2 Timothy chapter 3, where we looked at the last days and we saw the horrible character of people in the last days. And this comes because their hearts become hardened by the culture, by the rebellion, and

because they don't have an example of godliness around them. And then they think that they're all right. Or they have a form of religion. And this is what he's said here in 2 Timothy chapter 3, verse 5. **"Holding to a form of godliness..."** (or it could be translated: "religion"). **(2 Timothy 3:5)** So you can find people that have religious beliefs that are brutal, that are irreconcilable, that there's no placating them because they are simply working on the basis of shame, or the basis of honor. I think about just the other day, reading about these honor killings, reading about these brutal, brutal murders. Brothers stabbing their sister because they think that she has brought shame upon their religion; this is times of terror. And God says in Isaiah chapter 33, that there is a day coming, and and I want you to go back, and and I want you to see that because I forgot to share it with you. But if you'll go back to Isaiah chapter 33. In Isaiah chapter 33, he's talking about when the Lord comes and he says in verse 17: **"Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; they will behold a far-distant land. Your heart will meditate on terror: 'Where is he who counts? Where is he who weighs? Where is he who counts the towers?' You will no longer see a fierce people...."** (Isaiah 33:17-19) In other words, you're gonna stop someday and meditate and think, "Wait a minute. There's no terror around here. There's no one that's counting. There's no one that's weighing. There is no one here who is being mean. What is it?" Well it's the fact that the Lord has come. When He comes He's gonna to set everything straight, and we're gonna be looking at that this week. But before He comes, terror, terrorism is going to reign. Men's hearts, it says, will fail them because of fear: the hearts of those who do not have the fear of God as their treasure; those who not see the Lord as the stability of their times. It's really bad in those last days, and it's bad because what you have is, you have a group of people that have rejected God. God has given the knowledge of Himself to all people so that Romans 1 tells us that we are all without excuse. (See Romans 1:20) He wants you and I to know Him, to understand Him. He has revealed Himself

in nature. He has revealed Himself in our conscious so there is a consciousness that there is a holy God. (See Romans 1:19-20) And that you and I are to listen to this holy God, respect this holy God, reverence this holy God, fear this holy God. And yet what happens when we don't? What happens when we reject the knowledge of God? Well let's go to Romans 1 just for a quick minute. In Romans chapter 1, verse 28, **"And...as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer..."** in other words, they just said, "I'm not gonna believe. I don't believe. I can handle life myself. I've got this figured out. I don't need a crutch to lean on." And so they don't **"...acknowledge God any longer..."** But what happens to a person that does not acknowledge God any longer? It says, **"...God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do...things which are not proper." (Romans 1:28)** The young man from Korea that went onto the Virginia Tech campus (and he was a student there), he was a resident alien. In other words, he had registered; the government knew that he was here. He was going to school. He lived closer to Washington D.C., but he's going to Virginia Tech, but this man did not acknowledge God in his mind. He did what was not proper. And watch what it says: **"Being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil..." (Romans 1:29)** "Evil" is a word that you see in our lesson this week as we look at chapter 33, 34 and 35 of Isaiah. **"...Full of envy, murder [murder]..." (Romans 1:29)** Even the fact that a woman would go and abort a baby; that is murder; that is because "I'm not acknowledging God, I'm not acknowledging that God is Author of life. I'm not acknowledging that whoever sheds man's blood, that person shall die." This is what Genesis says. This is what God establishes after the flood. (See Genesis 9:6, 9) Why? Because man is created in God's image. So here they are: **"...full of envy, murder strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil..." (Romans 1:29-30)** I mean, that was a pure invention of evil. **"...Disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy,**

unloving, unmerciful; and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice...,” (this is their lifestyle), “...[practice these] **things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but...[they] give hearty approval to [others] who practice [this].” (Romans 1:30-32)** O Beloved, we are living in difficult days. We are living, I believe, with all that is going on as you listen to the news, as you watch the alignment of the nations, as you see the hatred for Israel and the hatred for America because America has supported Israel. As you listen to all of this you’ve got, [wake up, your redemption draws nigh]. (PARAPHRASE, Luke 21:28, KJV) But you’ve got to know also that more and more and more, lawlessness, ungodliness is going to increase. (See Matthew 24:12) And you have to walk in a way of stability. You need to walk in a way where you are not shaken by the chaos and the terror that is around you, but it’s like you’re walking in a bubble because you are trusting the Lord, because the Lord is the stability of your times. And with Him, you have gotten salvation and you have gotten wisdom and you have gotten knowledge [because] **the fear of the LORD is [your] treasure....” (Isaiah 33:6)** Now how do you build the fear of the Lord? How do you become richer and richer and richer in the fear of the Lord? The way you do that is the way that we’re doing it. You get to know God’s Word. You study it. I mean, you eat it, you sleep it, you drink it, you think about it, and it will be the stability of your times.