

#### PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

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

TITLE: Program 43 – It Will Fall, Never To Rise Again

### WEDNESDAY

### **OPEN**

The world is partying. They think that there is no God in heaven—no God that is going to hold them accountable. They think that they're their own god, the controller of their own destiny. And so what do they do? They eat, they drink, they're merry, and they think, "Oh! All that happens is tomorrow, that we die, and there's nothing after that." What they do not know is, that there is a judgment to come. That someday the party is going to be over.

### **PART ONE**

Never doubt it, Beloved. There is a God in heaven. And someday the world's party is going to come to an end. Someday, a righteous, holy God who created man and gave him vice-regency over the earth is going to move in judgment, because the inhabitants of this earth have polluted this earth and therefore God must move in righteousness. This is what we're seeing as we look at Isaiah chapter 24 and 25 this week. In Isaiah chapter 24 we find



the earth being devastated, being laid waste by God, because the inhabitants of this earth have polluted this earth. (See Isaiah 24:1, 3, 5) And then we move to a better story. We move to a wonderful ending of what happens when the party is over. And that's chapter 25. But we have a lot to look at in Isaiah chapter 24, yet. And so what I want you to do, Beloved, is to open your Bibles to Isaiah chapter 24. Now remember, 24 to 27 is a segment in Isaiah that is very, very crucial. It is a segment with truths in it that God is going to develop, add to; enhance. So that you and I, by the end of Isaiah, have an incredible understanding of this time and what God is going to do. What I want us to do is, I want us to look today at verse 7 through 15, first. Now we've moved from the beginning of the chapter where we look at God's judgment, and [He is no respecter of persons]. (PARAPHRASE, Romans 2:11, KJV) Then we look at why God is judging the earth, and that's in verse 4-6. Now in chapter 24, in verse 7 through 15, we're going to see that the party is over and the righteous rejoice, and Isaiah weeps. You say, "But Isaiah is righteous." That's right. "Why does he weep?" Well we'll see it in just a minute. In verse 7 it says, "The new wine mourns, the vine decays, all the merry-hearted sigh. The gaiety of tambourines ceases, the noise of reveler stops, the gaiety of the harp ceases." (Isaiah 24:7-8) And it says, "They do not drink wine with song; strong drink [now] is bitter to those who drink it. The city of chaos is broken down; every house is shut up so that none may enter...All joy turns [in]to gloom...," why? Because: "There is an outcry in the streets concerning the wine...." (Isaiah 24:9-11) It's like, you know, "There's no more booze. There's nothing to make us happy. There's nothing to make us glad." And so outside what you find is, you find them mourning. You find joy turned into gloom. The party's over. "...The gaiety of the earth is banished." (Isaiah 24:11) Now I hope that you have gone to ceptsforlife.com> and that you have downloaded your free study guide. I pray for you, and I get excited about you because I want you to grow in the knowledge of God, in the knowledge



of His truth. (See 2 Peter 3:18) I want you to understand Him and understand His ways so that you can know how to live, and so that you can stand firm, and so that you can do great things for God. I have high dreams and prayers and ambitions for you and for me, of being righteous and living righteously "...in the midst of [this] crooked and perverse generation...." (Philippians 2:15) I know from reading and studying the Word of God that there are so many indicators that God is about to wrap up the events of this world, the end is about to come, that the day of the Lord could well be on the horizon. You say, "Oh, people have been talking about that since the foundation of the world." (See 2 Peter 3:4) And they say, "Nothing's changed, you been waiting for promise of the Lord's coming, as 2 Peter says, and He hasn't shown up yet. He's not gonna show up." Listen, the Bible calls you, if you're saying that, a mocker and a scoffer. (See 2 Peter 3:3) And you just don't understand the heart of God. You don't realize that the reason that He is waiting is so that you might come to the knowledge of God, so that you might repent, so that you might have a change of mind, so that you might line up with the Word of God. [God is not willing that any perish but that all would come to the knowledge of Him. So He's not slow concerning His promise.] (PARAPHRASE, 2 Peter 3:9) He's right on time. Now as we look at it, the party is over, it says in verse 12: "Desolation is left in the city and the gate is battered to ruins." (Isaiah 24:12) In other words, the city is just collapsed, the gate was the stronghold. The gate was the protection. You batter it to ruins and you're just open to anything. And he says, "For thus it will be in the midst of the earth among [all] the peoples...." (Isaiah 24:13) I told you to get a study guide, and then I digressed from there. But why do I want you to get the study guide? Because I want you to see how to study the Word of God, I want you to see how to mark it in a significant way so that it sticks in your mind, so that you don't forget it, so that when you open the Bible it's just not all black and white, but there are colors and identifying marks, and color codings there that



enable you to remember and enable you to share these truths. So when we come to the word "earth," we double underline it in green and then I color it brown. You can do anything you want with it, just mark it, and mark it the same way. And be sure that you get every pronoun, every "it" that refers to the earth. It says, "For thus it will be in the midst of the earth among the peoples, as the shaking of an olive tree...." (Isaiah 24:13) They would come to these olive trees and there were olives all over them, and they wanted to pick them, and it's quicker, "Shake the tree! Shake the branches and watch the olives fall off of it." And what He says, it's like the shaking of an olive and there are few olives left on the top. He goes on to say that it is like, "...the gleanings [of] the grape harvest is over." (Isaiah 24:13) They've gone through and they've taken the final grapes off. There may be just one or two. And it goes on to say, "They raise their voices, they shout for joy; they cry out from the west concerning the majesty of the LORD. Therefore glorify the LORD in the east, the name of the LORD, the God of Israel, in the coastlands of the sea. (Isaiah 24:14-15) Now just stop and think. Stop and think about Israel. To the west is the Mediterranean, and then, over as you move east, you have at the top the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River coming down, and then you have the Dead Sea, so to speak, like a kidney bean, almost, with its back toward the Mediterranean. And all to the east, Iran and Iraq, and Jordan, and to the north, Syria. And so what He's saying is, this is what's going to happen. "...[They're going to] cry from the west...." (Isaiah 24:14) Now when it says, "cry from the sea," it's "...the coastlands of the sea." (Isaiah 24:15) It's Cyprus, and it's these other islands, and He's saying this. He's saying, "Look! Look! The party is over." And so what are the righteous going to do? They know that the world's party has come to an end. They know that God is moving in righteousness, and so they begin to sing. And they sing to the Lord, and they're full of rejoicing. And as they pick up that song, just stop and think. It says, "... They cry out from the west concerning the majesty of the



Lord." (Isaiah 24:14) Now whenever you think west and east, know this: It's always in relationship to Jerusalem. It's always in relationship to Israel because this is the very center of the earth. And so they're crying out with joy from the west. You stop and think of it and think of the world. And think of the religions of the world. Where are the strongest contingencies of people that do not believe in Jehovah, do not believe in the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, and Jesus Christ? Who do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God, who think of Him like the Muslims do: as a mere prophet. They think of "Al-Mahdi:" coming, their own savior coming, and Jesus is going to come with Him, but Jesus is going to do the bidding. So that is to the east. You look at the primary religions of the people to the east they do not embrace the Judeo-Christian values. But you look to the west, and you look to Europe at one time, you look to Britain at one time, you look across the ocean to the United States of America, and this is where you have the greatest numbers of Christians, although they are lessening. You even look at portions of Africa which is to the west, and so what you have is, you have the infidels. You had Cain going to the east. You had Adam and Eve going to the east because they had sinned against God. But now you have this rejoicing from the west. And then you have the contrast. It says in verse 15, "Therefore glorify the LORD in the east, the name of the LORD, the God of Israel, in the coastlands of the sea. From the ends of the earth we hear songs, 'Glory to the Righteous One....'" (Isaiah 24:15-16) We can hear them, we can hear them singing praises to God across the United States of America. And sometimes we're shown on television on newscasts, and we look a little bit weird raising our hands, or whatever people are doing, and closing their eyes, but you see these people rejoicing. And what He's saying is, at this time when the world's party is over, and when God moves in righteousness, "...But I say...," "I say," Isaiah is speaking, "...'Woe to me! Woe to me! Alas for me...!" He says, "... The treacherous deal treacherously, and the treacherous deal very treacherously." (Isaiah



24:16) It's only five Hebrew words. He says, "Yes, the righteous are singing songs." "But...the treacherous [are dealing] treacherously." (Isaiah24:16) And I say, "Woe is me!" What is he saying? What does he mean? We'll look at it in just a minute.

### PART TWO

Welcome back, Beloved, to Isaiah chapter 24. We have seen the contrast in verse 16: "From the ends of the earth we hear songs, 'Glory to the **Righteous One....**" Why? Because God is moving in His righteousness, God is judging the earth. And the righteous are safe. They are secure. Remember we saw in verse 6 that "...the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men are left." (Isaiah 24:6) But the ones that are righteous are left, the ones that are righteous are preserved, and so they're singing "... 'Glory to the [Lord]....'" It's over. God is moving in judgment, finally. But then in verse 16, you see Isaiah saying: "...But I say [to you], 'Woe to me! Woe to me! Alas [to] me! [For] the treacherous deal treacherously ...the treacherous deal very treacherously." (Isaiah 24:16) And so, although there is relief, evil continues until God moves in judgment. And so now we come to verse 17 through 23, and we move from the shaking of the earth to the reign of Jesus Christ. Now listen to what he says is going to happen to the earth because I want you to know, without the shadow of a doubt, Precious One, this is going to come to pass. It says in verse 17: "Terror and pit and snare confront you, O inhabitant of the earth." He says, "Then it will be that he who flees [from] the report of [the] disaster will fall into [a] pit...," and it says, "...and he who climbs out of the pit will be caught in [a] snare; for the windows above are opened, and the **foundations of the earth shake."** (Isaiah 24:17-18) What do you have? Watch and see what it sounds like. It says: "The earth is broken asunder, the earth is split through, the earth is shaken violently. The earth reels to and fro like a drunkard...it totters like a shack, for its transgression



is heavy [on] it, and it will fall, never to rise again." (Isaiah 24:19-20) In other words, God is going to move in judgment. God is going to move. If you look at 2 Peter, the day of God is coming when everything on the face of this earth will be burned up. (See 2 Peter 3:7) And what he's saying here is, that "...it will happen in that day...," he says, "...that the LORD will punish the host of heaven on high, and the kings of the earth on earth." (Isaiah 24:21) In other words, what is God going to do? God is going to open the windows of heaven. God is going to shake the earth. There is going to be earthquake after earthquake until, finally, as Revelation tells us, there is an earthquake like no other, not since the beginning of time. (See Revelation 16:18) And when that earthquake comes, Revelation tells us that there will hailstones coming out of heaven weighing a hundred pounds a piece. (See Revelation 16:21) God is punishing the earth for its iniquity. He's punishing the earth because the inhabitants of this earth have polluted the earth. They have shed blood upon the earth, and God, as we saw in Genesis, requires the lifeblood of every man because man was created in the image of God. (See Genesis 9:5-6) So watch what it says. It says, "So it will happen in that day...." (Isaiah 24:21) God is going to shake the things that can be shaken. I want you, next to verse 19, or somewhere on that part of the page, and I do pray that you've gotten an "Inductive Study Bible", which gives you large margins to write in and shows you how to get the theme of every single chapter and how to study that book. I want you to write "Haggai <u>chapter 2</u>, <u>verse 6 through 9</u>". Now I know it's just your very favorite book. You say, "I don't even know where it is." Let me tell you. And I wouldn't know if I hadn't put this in my mind. The last book of the Old Testament is Malachi. The first book of the New Testament is Matthew. So go between Matthew and Malachi and start backing up towards the front of the Bible. You go Malachi, and then you go back to Zechariah, and then you come to Haggai. And when you come to Haggai, I want you to look at chapter 2, verse 6. Now Haggai is written because the children of Israel have come



back from the Babylonian captivity and they started building the temple and they stopped. So God dealt with them, and He dealt with them in their crops and in their economy, and that. And so they finally started rebuilding the temple again and God blessed them. But when they got through, they looked at it and they said, "This is nothing compared to Solomon's temple." And some of the older people began to weep: "I'm telling you, I remember, I remember how beautiful it used to be, this is nothing. I'm telling you, it's nothing!" (See Haggai 2:3) You know, and so this is what's happening. And so in Haggai, chapter 2, in verse 6, this is what he says: "For thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land. (Haggai 2:6) "I will shake all the nations...;" he says, "...and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this house...," this house that you're looking at and crying over, "...I will fill this house with glory,' says the LORD of hosts." (Haggai 2:7) There is a day coming, when He says, "...[I'm gonna] shake the heavens and [I'm going to shake] the earth...." (Haggai 2:6) Now next to that, you might want to write Hebrews 12 and then go back and put it next to Isaiah chapter 24, which you put, where you put "Haggai," and put "Hebrews chapter 12," and let's go to verse 25. Now Hebrews is just an awesome, awesome, incredible book. And it comes after all the "Ts" in the New Testament in the epistles. And you come to Hebrews chapter 12, and when you come to that, God is saying to them, and He's saying to you and to me: "See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking...." (Hebrews 12:25) Now remember in Isaiah chapter 24, it says "The earth will be completely laid waste...," verse 3, "...and completely despoiled, for the LORD has spoken...." (Isaiah 24:3) And so now He's saying in Hebrews. "...[Don't you] refuse Him who [has] speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, [how] much less will we escape who [turns] away from [the Lord] who warns from heaven." It says, "And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has



**promised...,**" and now he's gonna quote Haggai chapter 2, verse 6. He says "...He has promised ... 'Yet once more [and] I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven." It says, "This expression, 'Yet once more,' denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain." And he says, "Therefore, since we [have] a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire." (Hebrews 12:25-29) God is going to move in judgment. It makes the righteous sing. [It makes Isaiah weep. Because the treacherous will continue to be treacherous until the very, very end]. (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 24:16) And so what will happen to them? It says, "[And] so it will happen in that day, that the LORD will punish the host of heaven on high, and the kings of the earth on earth." (Isaiah 24:21) What does that mean? Well we're going to look at it in the next program and you need to understand it means the devil's going to get his due, and all of his demons, as well as the kings on the earth. You don't wanna miss it.