

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

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

TITLE: Program 44 – Judgment For The Host Of Heaven

THURSDAY

OPEN

There is a day of judgment coming. If you are part of the world, you don't wanna hear that. You don't wanna hear about a God that judges. But if you are a person who has been abused by the world, who has been used by the world, who has been trampled underfoot and despised, it's good to know that there is a God in heaven who is just and righteous in all of His ways, (see Deuteronomy 32:4) and who says: "That's it! No more, you're not gonna get away with it."

PART ONE

Life is a warfare. There is a devil and he has angels, and they are in opposition to every child of God that has been removed from the kingdom of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of light. "...[Our warfare is] not against flesh and blood...[it's] against principalities [and] powers...and spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12, KJV) This is what Ephesians tells us. And yet, Beloved, [there is a day coming. It's on the



horizon, when God is going to move and God is going to judge the host of heaven and He's going to judge the kings of earth.] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 24:21) You cannot pollute God's creation and get away with it. You cannot shed the blood of man and get away with it. It must be requited. It must be dealt with. It must be paid for. (See Genesis 9:5) And we're in that section of Isaiah, chapter 24 to 27, that lets us know that [there is a time coming when God is going to judge the whole earth; all the inhabitants of the earth; when it is going to be burned and few men are going to be left in it.] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 24:6) We've been looking at it all week. And now we come to Isaiah chapter 24, verse 21. It says, "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. They will be gathered together like prisoners in [a] dungeon, and will be confined in prison...after many days they will be punished. Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, for the LORD of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and His glory will be before [all of] His elders." (Isaiah **24:21-23**) What is God doing? God is taking us to the future. God is taking us to the events that are going to come to pass, and the apocalyptic happenings at the very end of the world. And so when you think of Isaiah, I want you to draw our proverbial timeline. Now if you've been studying with me for a while, you know that that's just a straight line on a piece of paper. And what we do is, we take and put the cross, and so I want you in the middle of that line to put a red cross. That marks the death, the burial, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. That is what the coming of Jesus Christ, the birth of Jesus Christ; from then on marks the last days. And so Isaiah is taking us to the last of the last days. Isaiah is taking us through eschatology into apocalyptic times and he's showing us the end of the end. And that's what we see in this portion of Isaiah. He's talking about a time when He is going to judge the host of heaven on high and the kings on the earth. How he's going to gather them all, as in a dungeon, as in a prison, and then the



judgment is going to come. (See Isaiah 24:21-22) So on your line, I want you to come all the way over to the very end of the line, and yet I want you to leave room after that. And I want you put here, the "Great White Throne" above that end of time, so to speak. And this speaks of the Great White Throne judgment that is coming, and this is what we want to look at. We're coming to the very end of time. Now I pray that you'll download the study guide. I pray that you'll go to ceptforlife.com> and download that study guide. It is absolutely free. Does it cost us? Yes. It cost us a lot in producing that and putting it together, having it compiled and written and that, and yet we don't want anyone to be without. We want you to be able to study God's Word, to discover truth for yourself. So as we look at this, I want you to see what God is going to do. Verse 21, it says, "So it will happen in that day, that the LORD will punish the host of heaven on high...." (Isaiah 24:21) I want you to go to Revelation chapter 12, and I want you to see that there is a conflict between the devil and his angels and God and His angels, in Revelation chapter 12. And by the way, I love to teach Revelation. I teach it on our Greece study tour where we study the different epistles, Philippians and Thessalonians and and Acts, it's not an epistle, but it's a historical account. And where we study the prophecies of Daniel and where we study the book of Corinthians and the book of Ephesians, but it's on the Isle of Patmos that I get to teach Revelation chapter 6, all the way through Revelation chapter 19 and 20; or in Israel, at the Valley of Megiddo. And there I get to teach Revelation, and so as I open this, I can see myself standing there because it is so alive. And so what does he tell us is going to happen in Revelation 12, verse 7? "...There [is a] war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon...." (Revelation 12:7) Now he has described the dragon to us at the beginning of Revelation chapter 12. And it says that there is a war. "... The dragon and his angels waged war, and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent



of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him." (Revelation 12:7-9) And it says, "...[Now] I heard a loud voice in heaven...'Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ [has] come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down...who accuses them before...God day and night." (Revelation 12:10) And it says, "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death." (Revelation 12:11) In other words, they would not deny Christ, they'd rather die first. "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down...having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time." (Revelation 12:12) Now if we were to back up, if we were to back up from this timeframe, just before the Great White Throne Judgment, according to Revelation chapter 20, verses 1 to 7, I would show you that it talks about a reign of Christ on the face of this earth; a thousand-year reign. And it talks about Jesus reigning during that time, and it talks about the devil being bound in a bottomless pit. So under that line, back up and write a "thousand" and under that line put an arrow going down and just put a red pitchfork for "the devil." And you see him bound for a thousand years, now preceding that thousand years, he has, he is cut loose on the face of this earth for three and one-half years. Those three and one-half years are called "The Great Tribulation" that comes on the face of the earth. And so what you have is, you have the devil being cast down to earth and there he has free reign, so to speak, for three and a half years. He knows he has only a short time. He is going to be judged. (See Revelation 20:1-7) Now in the light of that, I want you to see that God is not only going to punish the host in heaven, but He is going to punish the kings of the earth. He is going to punish earth-dwellers. So let's see what happens. Next to I-Isaiah chapter 24, in verse 22, it says,



"They will be gathered together like prisoners in the dungeon, and will be confined in prison; and after many days they will be punished." (Isaiah 24:22) So when this judgment comes upon the earth, and there is a judgment on these people, they are going to someplace when they die, and they are going to be confined there. Let's see what God tells us about this sure judgment of those in rebellion to God. I want you to go to 2 Peter chapter 2, 2 Peter, chapter 2. Now in 2 Peter chapter 2, in this chapter, he begins talking about warning them about false teachers; [false teachers who will arise, just as there were false prophets; false teachers who live by their sensuality; false teachers who in greed exploit people that say that they are believers, or exploit believers.] (PARAPHRASE, 2 Peter 2:2-3) And these false teachers are pretending to be teachers of Jesus Christ, and yet they're exploiting others. And it says in verse 3: "And in their greed they will exploit you with false words...." (2 Peter 2:3) They're gonna tell you things that are not true. They're going to claim to be speaking of God and having visions and revelations and and things that will help them get your money, or help them support their ministry, because of the way they're tickling your ears. But it says: "...their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. For if God did not spare angels when they sinned...." (2 Peter 2:3) Now we saw Genesis chapter 6. We saw the sons of God cohabitating with the daughters of men. (See Genesis 6:1-2) And some believe that those sons of God, from understanding Job are an angelic being. (See Job 1:6) We saw that, and it says that, "...God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment...." (2 Peter 2:4) God is saying that God is going to judge them. He is going to judge the angelic beings, and He is going to judge the people on earth. He's going to judge these false teachers, and He's going to hold them in a pit; not the bottomless pit that Satan is going to be in, but there is a holding place. We'll look at it

in just a minute.



PART TWO

God, Beloved, punishes sin. This is what we're seeing in Isaiah chapter 24. He punishes sin. He is reserving those that have walked in rebellion to Him. He has confined them, so to speak, in a prison, in a holding place. But there is a day of judgment coming. We don't like to hear that. We don't like to believe that, unless we're righteous. And if we're righteous and we know God and we understand God, then we are rejoicing over this because we see what God is doing. Now in Isaiah chapter 24, it says, "...the LORD will punish the host of heaven on high, and the kings of the earth on earth. They will be gathered together like prisoners in the dungeon, and will be confined in prison; and after many days they will be punished." (Isaiah 24:21-22) So I want us to see this sure judgment. I left you in 2 Peter chapter 2. And in 2 Peter chapter 2, he's talking about the false teachers. And he's talking about how there are going to be false teachers as there were false prophets. And we saw that "...God did not spare [the] angels when they sinned...." (2 Peter 2:4) Now in verse 5 it says, "And [He] did not spare the ancient world, but [He] preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example [of] those who would live ungodly lives thereafter; and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men." (2 Peter 5-7) It says, "For...what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds." (2 Peter 2:8) And many of you have been tormented, haven't you? By lawless deeds of others. They think that they have triumphed over you. They think that they have gotten away with it. O Precious One, they haven't, because there is a righteous God. And a righteous God will judge, and that's what Isaiah 24 to 27, those chapters, are all about. It says, "Then the Lord knows how to rescue the



godly from temptation...," now listen: "...and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment." (2 Peter 2:9) I want us to look at Jude, verse 6. It's only one chapter long. It comes just before Revelation. And I want us to see that before we look at the day of judgment. In Jude, verse 6 it says, "And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day." (Jude 1:6) Now when is the judgment of this great day? What is he talking about? Well we come to Revelation chapter 20, and we need to go to Revelation chapter 20. You need to open your Bible if possible, and you need to look at the Scriptures for yourself, and you need to study them. So don't forget to download that free study guide. In Revelation chapter 20, verse 11. Now let me tell you when this is happening. The thousand-year reign is over. It has come to an end. He has described this thousand-year reign, and you believe this if you take the Bible literally. He had described it and mentioned it six times in seven verses. He says in verse 1: "Then I saw [the] angel coming down from heaven, holding the key[s] of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years." (Revelation 20:1-2) Remember, they're put in prison, and then comes the judgment. And then it goes on and says in verse 4: "...I saw thrones, and [those] that sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony [the testimony] of Jesus and because of the word of God...." They were martyrs. "...And those who had not worshiped the beast [n]or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and [they] reigned with Christ for a thousand years." And it says, "The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection." (Revelation 20:4-5) Do you know that as we study in Isaiah you're going to see more about this



thousand-year reign? Well it says, "When the thousand years are completed...," verse 7, "...Satan will be released from his prison, and [he] will come out to deceive the nations...." (Revelation 20:7-8) But then it says that, "...the devil...," verse 10, "...who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are...and they will be tormented day and night...," now listen: "...forever and ever." (Revelation 20:10) As eternal life is forever and ever, so eternal punishment is forever and ever, and then it says in verse 11. "[And] I saw a great white throne...," you drew it on your timeline. It's the end of time. "[And] I saw a great white throne and...," it says, "...and Him who sat [on] it, from whose presence...," now listen, "...earth and heaven fled away...." It reminds you of Isaiah chapter 24. And it says, "...and no place was found for them." (Revelation 20:11) "And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and [the] books were opened...." And it says, "...and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every one...according to their deeds. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book...he was thrown into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:12-15) Do you know that the last verses of Matthew chapter 25 tell us that the lake of fire was created for the devil and his angels? (See Matthew 25:41) This is the final judgment and they're cast into that lake of fire. So under the Great White Throne and down below the line, just put your red flames, and that is the "lake of fire." And know that this is something that is eternal. This is something that lasts forever and ever. This is not something that God intended man to experience. But when man chose to side with the devil, when man chose to break the everlasting covenant,



when man chose to break God's laws, to violate His statutes, then God had to move in judgment upon man. He didn't want man to die, and so what did He do? [He sent His Son the Lord Jesus Christ to die in your place, to be made sin for you, that you might have the righteousness of God in Him.] (PARAPHRASE, 2 Corinthians 5:21) And He said if you will believe in Jesus, if you will receive Him, you will become a child of God. But if you do not believe, you will die in your sins. You're going to live forever and ever, Beloved. And you can live with the devil and his crowd, but know this: someday the party will be over, and then the just judgment of God will come. And hell will open, the lake of fire will open its portals, and you will be cast in where you will live forever and ever in flames and torment "Where the worm [dies not] and the fire is not quenched...." (Mark 9:48) Isaiah will talk about it more, later. But you don't have to go there. If you'll just believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and confess your sins and say, "I'm a sinner and I need a Savior." And He says, "O Precious One, Precious One, enter in to the family of God and eternal life."