

ISAIAH, PART 1 (JUDGMENT – BUT HOPE)
PROGRAM 20 (#911065)
WEEK 4 (#911313)
©2011 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



PRECEPTS FOR LIFE
a Production of
Precept Ministries International
P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218
1-888-734-7707/ www.preceptsforlife.com

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 20 – Light In Darkness

FRIDAY

OPEN

Have you listened to a lot of people that talk and talk and talk about God? They tell you things that God told them. They tell you things that they experienced. But they don't tell you what the Word of God has to say. Oh, God warns us that if we're going to walk in truth we have to walk according to the law and according to the testimony. And if we're not speaking according to that it's because the light hasn't been turned on.

PART ONE

Do you realize, Precious One, how many people there are that are sitting in darkness? I mean they're sitting there, they've got the controls, they're watching television, they're going from one program to another, and many times, from one religious program to another, and yet they're sitting in the dark, because what they're listening to, they are unable to discern whether it is truth or whether it is a lie, whether it is truth or a figment of man's imagination. They can't figure out as they sit there and flip the dial and get

their theology from the television, as to whether it is according to the law and according to the testimony. And if not, it's because there has been no dawn in their life. Now what is dawn? Dawn is when you're sitting there looking out the window in the blackness of the early morning hours and all of a sudden the light rises. The sun rises, and as it rises you get a glimpse of what is really there. As we bring this week to a conclusion, we've been talking all week about faith. All right, what does God tell us that we must do, then we must do it? Now remember His word to Ahaz in chapter 7 was this: **"...If you [do] not believe, you...will not last."** (Isaiah 7:9) And Ahaz did not believe. He did not believe and consequently Ahaz did not last. I mean he lost it and he lost what God had promised him under the Davidic covenant simply because he turned to the arm of flesh instead of turning to God, simply because he preferred the strong rivers, the flowing waters of the Euphrates to the gentle flowing stream of Shiloah. And so because of that, God was going to bring the Assyrians down on them. It was going to overflow from the northern kingdom into the southern kingdom of Judah and it was going to come up to the neck. Now God says and reminds them, "Immanuel" God is with us. And God reminds the nations that come against Israel— and they need to remember this today: Every nation that has come against Israel, when the president of Iran stands there and says that Israel should not exist, there is a holy God in heaven that is going to hold him accountable. He's going to arise, but he's going to be shattered. God will bring him low. He will not last because there is a God in heaven and because His name is Immanuel and because He has a remnant of faithful people in Israel. We have come to that portion in Isaiah chapter 8 where God turns and He talks not only to Isaiah, but He talks to Isaiah's disciples. He's talking to the remnant; the remnant that shall return, the remnant that is faithful, the remnant that will set themselves apart, and in setting themselves apart, will stand faithful. So let's see in this final day that we have this week what God is saying to us about this walk of faith, this trusting that enables us to last. In Isaiah chapter 8 it says, in verse 11, **"For thus the Lord spoke to me...."**

Isaiah's writing. **"...With mighty power and instructed me not to walk in the way of this people, saying... 'It's a conspiracy! [It's a conspiracy!]"** (Isaiah 8:11-12) Now we don't know exactly what he is calling a conspiracy, but he is saying that you and I are not to be caught up in these conspiracy theories or plots or whatever. We're to believe God. We're to stand firm with God. We are to fear God. So he says, **"You are not to say [with the people] '[It's] a conspiracy!' In regard to all that [these] people call a conspiracy...you are not to fear what they fear or be in dread of it [this conspiracy]."** (Isaiah 8:12) Remember in Isaiah 2:22 he said to them, **"Stop regarding man, whose breath...is in his nostrils...."** (Isaiah 2:22) In other words, God put it there. He can wipe him out any time. He says, **"It is the Lord...whom you shall regard as holy."** (Isaiah 8:13) Verse 12 and verse 13 the pronouns are plural, so He's talking to more than just Isaiah. And you see who it is. **"It is the Lord of hosts whom you should regard as holy....He shall be your fear...He shall become your dread. Then He [will] become [your] sanctuary...."** (Isaiah 8:13-14) Now dread does not mean "Oh, oh, oh, oh, I'm so afraid of God." It means that you fear displeasing God. It means that you fear disobeying God. Why? Because you know Who God is, because you are honoring Him as God. Ahaz did not honor God as God. He did not listen to God. When God said, "Ask for a sign and I'll give it to you," he said, "No." Why? He wanted his own way. So we are not to fear what others fear. You've got to know this: that fear immobilizes you. Faith liberates you. Faith liberates you from being controlled by your circumstances. Faith liberates you from all the multiple voices that are coming in your ears saying, "It's a conspiracy! It's a conspiracy! What do I do?" No, faith puts your eyes on the Word of God. You hear what God says and then you live and you act accordingly. Now watch what it says. When He is your fear, when you dread displeasing Him, and you dread not doing what God says, **"Then He shall become a sanctuary.... (Isaiah 8:14)** He becomes your shelter. Faith is your shelter. Faith is what makes you secure. Why? Because God then is responsible for

taking care of you. We have, as 2 Peter chapter 1 says, [exceedingly great and magnificent promises.] (PARAPHRASE 2 Peter 1:4) And those promises enable us to live as partakers of His holiness. They take care of us for every situation of life. And so he goes on to say, “**...He shall become a sanctuary; but to both the houses of Israel....**” Now when he’s saying “both the houses of Israel” he’s talking about the northern kingdom and the southern kingdom. “**He [will] become...a stone to strike....**” (Isaiah 8:14) And “the stone to strike” is a prophecy about the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. You see it again in Zechariah. “**Smite the shepherd [strike the shepherd, crucify him] and the sheep [will] be scattered....**” (Zechariah 13:7, KJV) So who is Jesus? Who is this One who is Immanuel, this child that will be born, the Son that will be given, whose name is Immanuel? He is the One, Precious One, that is to us “**...a sanctuary; but [is] to both houses of Israel a stone to strike....**” someone to crucify. And it says, “**...a rock to [to] stumble over....**” (Isaiah 8:14) They stumble over Him. Why? Because they don’t believe what He says about Himself. And they look at Him and they look at His miracles and they look at His works and they don’t believe them. And so he says, “**...And a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of [Israel.]**” (Isaiah 8:14) In other words, if you don’t believe in Jesus, Jew or Gentile, then He is a snare. He is a trap. [If you do not believe you will not last.] (PARAPHRASE Isaiah 7:9) Have you got it? It’s our key repeated verse that we are reading and quoting over and over again from Isaiah chapter 7, verse 9. So now listen to what he says. “**Many will stumble over them, then they will fall and [they will] be broken [then] they will even be snared and caught.**” And then what does he say? “**Bind up the testimony, seal [up] the law among my disciples.**” (Isaiah 8:15-16) Whose disciples? Isaiah’s disciples. Who are they? They are a group of people that have listened to the words of the prophet and have ears to hear, eyes to see, and hearts to believe and who have determined that they are not going to fear men, but they are going to fear God. And so he says, “**Bind up the testimony, [and] seal [up] the law among my disciples.**” (Isaiah 8:16)

“Bind up the testimony” means to wrap it up so that it can’t be tampered with. “To seal” means that you seal it so that it cannot be added to. Precious One, if you don’t know the Word of God you don’t know how many people there are that add to the Word of God. They’ll take something and they’ll add all sorts of these feelings and emotions and suppositions because they want to get you and rake you in through your emotions. It should never be through your emotions. It should be through your mind because the emotions are to follow the heart, the mind. As a man thinketh so he is. (See Proverbs 23:7) [Be not conformed to this world, but be renewed by the transforming of your mind, the transforming of your mind.]

(PARAPHRASE Romans 12:2) So he says, **“Bind up the testimony, seal [up] the law among my disciples. And I will wait for the Lord who is hiding His face from the house of Jacob....”** (Isaiah 8:16-17) He’s hiding his face from the house of Jacob. He has turned on the house of Jacob, why? They prefer Assyria, they’re going to get Assyria, but Assyria is going to do them in. And yet God is turning on them. Why? Because they turned away from Him. We’ll talk about it in just a minute.

PART TWO

When you see calamities happen, you and I are to know, according to Amos that a calamity does not occur in a city unless the Lord has done it. (See Amos 3:6) The Lord is at work. The Lord is trying to get people’s attention. He’s trying to get a hold of them and say, “Wake up, wake up, listen to Me! Turn to Me. Believe Me. Quit fearing man and fear Me.” That’s what He’s trying to do in a calamity. And when that happens and you and I are in the midst of it, we need to remember that it is like us walking in a bubble of peace, a bubble of protection; not that we might not go through the storm, not that we might not suffer as others suffer. But as we do this, one of the things that we need to know is, in the midst of all this we are to wait for the Lord. Isaiah says, **“...I will wait for the Lord....”** Let’s look at it. Isaiah

chapter 8, verse 17, **“And I will wait for the Lord who is hiding His face from the house of Jacob; I will even look eagerly for Him.” (Isaiah 8:17)**

Now remember, what was the promise? The promise is, I’m going to give you a sign: a virgin is going to conceive, a virgin is going to have a son. His son’s name will be Immanuel, “God with us.” (See Isaiah 7:14) So in the midst of this time when God is judging Jacob, I’m going to look, I’m going to eagerly await for Him. Now watch, watch because we are to do the same thing. In Luke chapter 2 you find them waiting for the first coming of Messiah, waiting for this virgin to give birth to this child. And so in Luke chapter 2 we have an account of Mary and Joseph bringing Jesus into the temple to fulfill the law. And this is what it says in verse 25. **“And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.”** He was looking for the Messiah. Many people were not. **“And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.”** “Christ” is another word for “Messiah,” the Promised One. **“And he came in the Spirit into the temple....”** He was directed by God to go into the temple. **“...And when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, then he took Him in his arms....”** I want you to get the picture. Here come Mary and Joseph. They’re carrying baby Jesus. Simeon comes over, takes Jesus out of the arms of Mary and looks at Him and then he says, **“...My eyes have [beheld the Son of God.] My eyes...,”** listen to what he says. He says, **“Lord, now You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a Light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.” (Luke 2:25-32)** Simeon was waiting. Isaiah would wait. Isaiah would eagerly look for Him. (See Isaiah 8:17) Simeon was eagerly looking for Him. You say, “But He’s come and He’s gone.” Yes, but He’s coming again. And so you and I too, are to look eagerly for Him. And how

do we look eagerly for Him? Well, look at 2 Peter chapter 3. He says, **“Know this...,”** verse 3, **“...first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking [and] following after their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming?’”** You’ve been waiting and waiting and waiting. **“...[Everything] continues ...as it was from the beginning of creation.”** And it says they’re willfully ignorant of the fact that there was a flood and that all things aren’t the same as they were from creation. They’re willfully ignorant of the fact that God judged once and God’s going to judge again. And then it goes on to say, **“But...do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is [as] a thousand years, and a thousand years [as] one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise [He] wants [people] to come to repentance.”** (2 Peter 3:3-9) So what are you and I to do? Verse 11, **“Since all these things are to be destroyed...,”** since God’s going to destroy the heavens and the earth and give us a new heaven and a new earth, **“...what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God....”** (2 Peter 3:11-12 **“...According to His promise we are looking for new heavens a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since [all] these things [will happen] be diligent to be found [in] Him in peace, spotless and blameless,”** (2 Peter 3:13-14) and that was Isaiah’s passion and that is to be your passion and my passion also. So how do I stay spotless? How do I stay blameless? I stay that way by being washed with the water of God’s Word. Now he says, **“...I will...look for Him. Behold, I ...,”** his disciples are going to look, he’s going to look. **“...I and the children whom the Lord has given me are for signs and wonders in Israel....”** (Isaiah 8:17-18) Why is Isaiah a sign? What does his name mean? It means “Jehovah saves.” And his son, his son is Shear-jashub, “a remnant shall return.” (See Isaiah 7:3) There is a faithful remnant. There is a holy seed. It is the stump. It is the stump of the tree that is felled. (See Isaiah 6:13) And then his other son’s name is **“...Swift is the booty, speedy is the**

prey.” (Isaiah 8:1) He says, “[Were from] **signs and wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.** [And] **when they say to you, ‘Consult the mediums and the spiritists who whisper and mutter,’ should not a people consult their God...?’**” (Isaiah 8:18-19)

You’re running to these spiritists. That is an abomination unto God.

“...Should you consult the dead on behalf of the living? To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn.” (Isaiah 8:19-20) It’s because the light has not arisen. It’s because the day star has not arisen in their hearts. They are walking in darkness. **“They will pass through the land hard-pressed and famished, and it will turn out that when they are hungry, they will be enraged and [they will] curse...God [and their king] as they face upward. [And] then they will look to the earth, and behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish; and they will be driven away into darkness.”** (Isaiah 8:21-22) Why? Because they do not turn to the law and to the testimony; because they just want something that is going to tickle their ears, and instead it’s going to destroy them. And then he starts in chapter 9 and he says, listen, **“The people [that are walking] in darkness will see a great light....”** (Isaiah 9:2) Oh, the great light is going to be, [For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government of our lives will be upon His shoulders and He shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Immanuel,] (PARAPHRASE Isaiah 9:6) another prophecy about Jesus. Jesus said that **“...he [that] follows Me will not walk in...darkness....”** (John 8:12) He is the Living Word. He is the Incarnate Word. He’s the One that prayed for you, **“[Father] sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth.”** (John 17:17, KJV) Just remember if they don’t speak according to this word, they have no dawn. Don’t follow them. It ends in darkness. Follow God.