

**ISAIAH, PART 1 (JUDGMENT – BUT HOPE)**  
**PROGRAM 42 (#911087)**  
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**SERIES: Isaiah, Part 1 (Judgment – But Hope)**

**TITLE: Program 42 – Man’s Corruption, The Earth’s Pollution**

**TUESDAY**

**OPEN**

Hey! Wait a minute! Stop right where you are. Do you realize that you were created by God? Do you realize, My Friend, that you were created for God? Do you realize that God created you for His pleasure? And how are you doing? Are you paying attention to God? Are you living for His pleasure? Or are you living for your own? There are consequences if you live for your own. We’ll talk about it today.

**PART ONE**

Hello, My Friend. I’m excited about today’s lesson, and the reason that I’m excited about today’s lesson is because of the portion of Isaiah that we’re in. When you read Isaiah 24, 25, 26 and 27, it absolutely in a sense, wipes you out. It wipes you out if you stop and you think of what God is saying and what God is going to do. He tells us in Isaiah 24, 25, 26, 27 what He has in store for the world. We’ve seen in Isaiah 13 through 23 His oracle to various nations. But now He’s taking His message worldwide. And He’s telling us

what He is going to do to the earth, and why. God tells us in Isaiah chapter 24, Precious One, that “...[He is going to lay] **the earth waste.**” (Isaiah 24:1) That He is going to devastate the earth, and He tells us why He is going to do this. Listen to what it says in Isaiah 24, verse one: “**Behold, the LORD lays the earth waste, devastates it, distorts its surface and scatters its inhabitants.**” (Isaiah 24:1) It says in verse 3, “**The earth will be completely laid waste and completely despoiled...,**” why? “**...For the LORD has spoken [His] word.**” (Isaiah 24:3) In other words, this is going to happen, Precious One, because God has commanded it. Because God says, “This is what I’m going to do.” And you say, “But, why? When God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth, why is God going to do this?” Because He tells us later that: [He is going to judge the hosts of heaven; He is going to judge the kings and the inhabitants of the earth.] PARAPHRASE, (Isaiah 24:21) It’s a terrible time that is coming. It is a time when no one will escape; when the maid and the mistress will both be on an equal playing field, when the debtor and the creditor will both be on an equal playing field. (See Isaiah 24:2) God is going to move over the face of the earth. Why is He going to do this? It says, “**The earth will be completely laid waste...completely despoiled, for the LORD has spoken [His] word. The earth mourns and withers, the world fades and withers, the exalted of the people of the earth fade away. The earth is also polluted by its inhabitants....**” (Isaiah 24:3-5) In other words, the people of this earth who have been created, like you, by God and for God, the people that have ignored that, the people that have walked away, the people that have said, “Forget it! Forget it. I’m going to live the way I want to live.” Because of those people, God is going to deal with them. And this is what it says. It says, “**The earth is also polluted by its inhabitants, for they...,**” they—the people that He created, “**...transgressed laws, violated statutes...,**” altered God’s Word, “**...broke the everlasting covenant. Therefore, a curse devours the earth...,**” it says, “**...and those who live in it are held guilty. Therefore, the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few...are**

**left [in it].” (Isaiah 24:5-6)** If you remember yesterday’s message (and if you didn’t hear it I urge to get it), but what I was saying is, I was teaching on the fact that the party is over. And I told the story of a friend of mine whose daughter was lured to help a friend at a party, who couldn’t get away and who needed help, and so she drove. (Now this was an acquaintance, this wasn’t an intimate friend.) She drove for 50 minutes. She gets to the party. She’s drinking a bottle of water. She sets the bottle of water down, goes to the party looking for her friend, can’t find it, is dying of thirst, picks up her drink; drinks it, and she wakes up at six o’clock in the morning, naked, laying next to a man she does not know. She had been sold as a virgin. This was a trick. But there’s a day, Precious One, and this is our theme for this week: When the Party is Over. And when the party is over, it’s over because God devastates the earth. Because [God is upset with the inhabitants of this earth that have polluted this earth, and so therefore, God burns with fire, and devours the people, and few are left in it.] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 24:5-6) Now as we saw, yesterday, we saw that they had done three things: that they had transgressed the law; that they had violated the statutes; that they had broken the everlasting covenant—that they had set that aside. And so what I want us to do today is, I want us to go back and I want us to get a grasp of “from the beginning.” I want us to see the first time the term “everlasting covenant” is used. Now when I use the word “covenant,” I want you to know that a covenant is a solemn, binding agreement. It’s made by passing, in a sense, through pieces of flesh. It is a covenant that is cut and it implies that there is a shedding of blood. Now you don’t see those characteristics the first time that you look at “covenant” in Genesis chapter 6, where it’s, where we find the word used for the first time. But as you progress, and as you get to Genesis chapter 15, there you see God making a covenant with Abraham, and the animals being cut in two, and God coming down and passing through the pieces of those animals. “[And] **that day...**,” it says, “...[God] **made a covenant with** [Abraham]...” (**Genesis 15:17-18**) Now one of the things I tell you in our study guide, and do you know that we have a free,

downloadable study guide on Isaiah, for you, so that you can study with us. And one of the things that we teach you to do is, to mark the text. Because when you interact with the text, when you take your Bible and you begin to mark it, one of the things that we tell you, when you come to Isaiah chapter 24, you want to mark every reference to “covenant.” What you want to do is, you want to double underline, in green, every geographical location, and then because it’s the earth and the earth is made of dirt then I color it brown. And so what you do is you mark every reference to the “earth,” but we also want you to mark every reference to “covenant.” Now it’s one place in here, and it’s called the “everlasting covenant,” so I color it red because a covenant implies the shedding of blood, and I put yellow around it because God is the Sovereign Administrator of every single covenant. In other words, if a covenant, if a solemn, binding agreement is made, God is watching over to make sure that that agreement is kept. Now in the light of that, in the light of the fact that [God is going to devastate the earth, that He’s going to distort it’s surface, and that He is going to burn up His inhabitants and few are going to be left.] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 24:1, 6), I want us to go back to the very book of beginnings. I want us to go back to Genesis chapter 1, because in Genesis chapter 1, what we have is, we have how everything came into being. In Genesis chapter 1 and verse 1 it says: **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”** And it says, and **“The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the [face] of the waters. [And] then God said, ‘Let there be light’ ...; and it says, “...and there was light. [And] God saw that the light was good....”** (Genesis 1:1-4) So what you have is, you have an account of six days of creation when “God said,” “and it was so,” “and it was good.” And so all the way up to the sixth day, God is creating the heavens and the earth, the sun, the moon, the stars, the hosts of heaven. He is creating the animals. He’s creating the plants. He’s creating it all. How does He do it? He speaks. That’s how He’s going to devastate the earth. He’s going to speak and it’s

going to happen. So He speaks and the earth comes into existence. Now you say, “I don’t believe that. Science doesn’t support that.” I wanna tell you something. Theory does not support it if you have the wrong theory. But science is not contradictory to the fact that there is an earth that was created with a purpose and a plan. And it does not deny the fact that there is a Creator. You see, Beloved, it’s a matter of faith. You’re either going to listen to man and his concept of what happened when he wasn’t even there. Or you’re going to listen to what God said, who was there and who created it all. You take your pick. And you know what? You can make the choice, but you can’t choose the consequences. God’s the One that chooses the consequences. And you know that because you’ve reaped consequences that you never intended to reap, that you didn’t want to experience, and yet they came, why? Because you transgressed some of God’s laws. I’ve reaped consequences because I’ve transgressed God’s laws. I’ve reaped consequences with my two boys because I was immoral, because I divorced their father, because I did not keep the covenant of marriage, I’ve reaped the consequences. And then I’ve come to know Jesus Christ and I have known the forgiveness of sin. But I also understand that I was created by God and for God. Because once you come to know the Word of God, God opens the eyes of your understanding. So in Genesis chapter 1, verse 26, it says, **“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness....’” (Genesis 1:26)** And then it says, **“...let them....,”** because it tells us in the next verse that **“God created man...male and female He created them.” (Genesis 1:27)** So it says, **“Let them rule over the fish of the sea...over the birds of the sky...over the cattle...over all the earth ...over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (Genesis 1:26)** So God created man in His image. God made man to rule over His creation, and yet what has man done according to Isaiah 24? Man has polluted the earth that God put him on and God gave Him rule over. And what is going to happen? We’ll talk about it in just a minute.

## **PART TWO**

**“God created man...male and female He created them.” (Genesis 1:27)**

He put 'em in a perfect environment called the Garden of Eden. (See Genesis 2:8) He told them what they could do and what they shouldn't do. The one thing they shouldn't do was eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. (See Genesis 2:16-17) A serpent came into the garden. They listened to the serpent. They believed a lie instead of believing God. And when they listened to the serpent and they believed the lie, and they took the fruit and they ate the fruit—Eve took it, ate it first, gave it to Adam, and Adam ate. (See Genesis 3:1-6) So that when Adam and Eve had their first child, they gave birth to a little sinner. **“...By one man sin entered into the world, and death...passed upon all men, [in] that all had sinned....”**

**(Romans 5:12, KJV)** As a consequence, God drove them out of the Garden of Eden to protect them (See Genesis 3:24), because there was the tree of life in the garden. And if they had eaten of the fruit of that tree as sinners, they would have remained sinners for all time. So to keep them from eating of that tree and so that He might give them life another way, through Jesus Christ, through the promise of the Messiah who would come—the Christ that would triumph over the serpent, the devil of old. In order to protect them, He drove them out of the garden. And as they had children, they had two sons, Cain and Abel. Now what I want you to see is, God created you in His image. God created you for His pleasure. He created mankind. So when I'm talking about you, I'm talking about you being a member of mankind. But what most of mankind has done is man has become more and more corrupt. We have turned away from God. The world is throwing a party. And it is a party in rebellion to God, breaking His commandments, transgressing, violating His statutes and breaking the everlasting covenant. So let's go back now and see what happens when Cain and Abel, the two sons of Adam and Eve, get in a rile and Cain kills Abel. (See Genesis 4:8) So now God has to judge Cain, but watch what He says. He says in verse 9:

**“Then the LORD said to Cain, ‘Where is Abel your brother?’ And he said, ‘I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?’ [And] He said, ‘What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground.’” (Genesis 4:9-10)** Now what we see is, man has polluted the earth. And what pollutes the earth is the shedding of the blood of another human being. ’Cause God created man in His image, and so what we find is, we find Cain killing Abel, and [the voice of the blood of Abel crying from the ground]. (PARAPHRASE, Genesis 4:10) And He says, **“‘Now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth.’” (Genesis 4:11-12)** “[And] Cain said to the LORD, ‘My punishment is too great [I cannot] bear [it]! Behold, You have driven me this day from the face of the ground; and from Your face I will be hidden, and I will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.’” (Genesis 4:13-14) And then He says, [“Okay, whoever kills you will pay, sevenfold.”] (PARAPHRASE, Genesis 4:15) It says, **“Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of Nod...,”** now I want you to get this: **“...east of Eden.” (Genesis 4:16)** East of Eden. When He drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden, they went to the east. Now Cain is going to the east of Eden. And he is a wanderer and he is suffering as a result of this. Now from there I want you to get in Genesis chapter 6. Remember we’re looking at this everlasting covenant, and I want you to see the connection between this covenant and the earth, and our responsibility to the earth that God has created, that God has given man rulership over. And so it says in Genesis chapter 6, **“Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw...the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.” (Genesis 6:1-2)** Some people believe that is a uniting of the spirit world with the human world. Whether it is or

not, you just know that they transgressed against God. And God says, **“My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because [he’s] flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”** (Genesis 6:3) “They’re only going to live 120 years more and I’m going to move in judgment, because of this.” It says in verse 5, **“Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the [thought] of his heart was only evil continually. [And] the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. [And] the LORD said, ‘I will blot out man whom [I’ve] created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things...to the birds of the sky...I am sorry [I am sorry] that I have made them.’ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.”** (Genesis 6:5-8)

Remember that God is going to devastate the earth. He’s going to distort its surface. He’s going to lay it waste. (See Isaiah 24:1) Why? Because man has polluted the earth. He’s going to burn them, but a few will be left. (See Isaiah 24:5-6) Even as Noah was left, and so He says this, **“...The earth was corrupt in the sight of God ...the earth was filled with violence. [And] God looked on the earth, and...it was corrupt; [and] all flesh had corrupted their way [on] the earth.”** (Genesis 6:11-12) He says, **“...The earth is filled with violence because of them....”** (Genesis 6:13) Because of men who have partied. They ate, they drank; they gave in marriage. They lived as if God did not exist. It’s what the days of Noah were like and Matthew tells us that. (See Matthew 24:38) And so He says, “I’m going to prepare an ark. Noah, prepare an ark.” (See Genesis 6:14) He says, **“...I will establish...,”** verse 18, **“...My covenant with you; and you [will] enter the ark....”** (Genesis 6:18) So out of all that He created, only eight people are going to survive: Noah and Mrs. Noah, and Shem, Ham and Japheth and their wives. And so we have the flood, and in Genesis chapter 9, God says, [“Now, now the flood is over and I want you to multiply and I want you to fill the earth.”] (PARAPHRASE, Genesis 9:1) But I want you to know this: **“...I will require your lifeblood; from every beast I will require it.**

**...From every man, from every man's brother I will require the life of man.” (Genesis 9:5)** “I made man, and if another man kills him, then I’m going to bring judgment. I’m going to require their blood.” Why? Because you, as a human being, were created in the image of God. You may have distorted that image, but you were created in the image of God and your life is sacred. And so then God says, He goes on to say, **“Now behold, I Myself do establish My covenant with you, and...your descendants after you...” (Genesis 9:9)** Verse 12: **“...This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; I [will] set my bow in the cloud, and it [will] be...a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. ...when I bring a cloud over the earth ...the bow will be seen in the cloud.” (Genesis 9:12-14)** In other words, “I consumed the earth and all of its inhabitants with a worldwide flood, but I preserved you. I judged not by fire, I judged by water. But I’m telling you the next time that you would see a heavy rain, look for the cloud because I’m not going to do that again.” He says, **“When the bow is in the cloud...,”** verse 16, **“...then I will look upon it, to remember...,”** here it is: **“...the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth. ...This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all...that [are] on the earth.” (Genesis 9:16-17)** God expects you, as man, as woman, to live for Him. And when you don’t, you pollute the earth. We’ll talk about it in our next lesson.