

ISAIAH, PART 1 (JUDGMENT – BUT HOPE)
PROGRAM 49 (#911094)
WEEK 10 (#911319)
©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 49 – Surpassing Peace For The Righteous

THURSDAY

OPEN

Are you in such great distress, Precious One? Are you in such turmoil that you can only whisper a prayer? You don't even have strength. You're just, "God, God," that's all you can say. "Help me." O Precious One, listen: God hears the whisper of your heart and God is able to move and accomplish His purpose in this trial through you.

PART ONE

Our theme this week is the peace of the righteous, the peace that comes from trusting in God, the trust that comes from knowing that you have an Everlasting Rock. We're looking at the righteous. In Isaiah chapter 26 this is the focus. One of the key words that you need to mark throughout the book of Isaiah is the word, "righteous". And when I'm talking about a key word, if you just happened to catch this program know this, it is God that is trying to hook you. It is God that is trying to draw you in, because God wants you to learn His Word. He wants you to discover truth for yourself, and that's

what this program is all about. There are precepts for life in this book called the Bible, precepts by which we live, precepts by which we get wisdom and understanding, precepts that causes to recognize that “Hey! Every false way.” Why? Because it’s false and because it leads us in the wrong direction. And so this program has been designed to help you discover truth for yourself by teaching you principles of inductive Bible study. “Inductive” means you remove the middle man and you go straight to the Word of God yourself to discover what God is saying. We have a downloadable study guide for you, go online to <preceptsforlife.com> and find out about us, because we want to have a relationship with you in God’s Word, because it is God that performs His work in us. Now this is the portion of Scripture that we are in in Isaiah chapter 26. Now in Isaiah chapter 26 in verse 11-19 we can see that our righteousness comes because it is God who performs His work in us. Now we have to be willing. We have to be available. We have to recognize that we can’t do it on our own. We have to cry out to God. We have to depend on God. So that’s what you’re seeing. Verse 12 is the key verse in this paragraph. And verse 12 says, **“Lord, You will establish peace for us...,”** and “peace” is a key word that you want to mark. **“...Since You have also performed for us all our works.” (Isaiah 26:12)** You have performed our works. It is the principle that I mentioned in our last program, but it is John chapter 5, verse 24. So I want you to go to John chapter 5, verse 24 When you study the Bible, when you read you need to find out who is speaking and to whom is he speaking and what is being said and why is it being said. So in John chapter 5 in verse 30; (I may have said 24 but I want 30). Jesus is speaking. He says, **“I can do nothing on My own initiative....”** Now this is Jesus who is God, **“...[who] was in the beginning with God...,”** who is equal with God. **(John 1:1)** This is what the gospel of John teaches. But He says, **“I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but he will of Him who sent Me.” (John 5:30)** What Jesus is saying

is, “Although I am who I am, I do not act independently of God.” So this is what we find in Isaiah. We find this principle, this precept of truth, this seedbed of truth. And that is that the righteous are made righteous by faith in God. So He talks about how, “**...Other masters...ruled [over] us...,**” how we didn’t always believe this. But it says, “**...But through You...we confess [your] name.**” (Isaiah 26:13) So as you go through and you highlight every reference to “God,” every “You” that refers to Him, and I color it yellow, you see what God has done. And you see that it says, “**O LORD, they sought You in distress; they could only whisper a prayer....**” He says, “**...Your chastening was upon them.**” (Isaiah 26:16) In other words, You were bringing them low. Now remember, we saw in Psalm 119, “**It [has been] good for me, that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.** (Psalms 119:71, KJV) So he’s saying, “All right, we were in a place where we could barely pray, where we could barely whisper a prayer, we were so desperate.” “**...Your chastening [hand] was upon [us].**” (Isaiah 26:16) He says, “**As the pregnant woman...,**” and he’s using an illustration, “**...approaches the time to give birth, she writhes and [she] cries out in her labor pains, thus we were before You, O LORD.**” (Isaiah 26:17) We were in labor. We were in pain. We could barely whisper a cry. And it goes on to say, “**We were pregnant, we writhed in labor, we gave birth, as it seems, only to wind....**” We didn’t have a product of all of our labor. “**...We could not...,**” now listen carefully, “**...accomplish deliverance for the earth, now were [the] inhabitants of the world born.**” (Isaiah 26:18) In other words, “Apart from You, I can do nothing.” Jesus says in John 14, [The words that I speak, they’re the Father’s words. The works that I do, they are the Father’s works.] (PARAPHRASE John 14:10) Now what was He doing in this? He was showing us, Precious One, that that we are to live this life of total dependence upon God. So it’s Christ in us. It’s Christ through us. It’s not by might. It’s not by power. It’s not by strength. But it’s by the Spirit of God.

(PARAPHRASE Zechariah 4:6) So this is what he says, “We couldn’t save the earth. We couldn’t do a thing for the earth.” **“...We could[n’t] accomplish deliverance for the earth....”** He says, **“Your dead will live; their corpses will rise....”** He says, **“...You who lie in the dust, [wake up]...shout for joy....”** He says, **“For your dew is as the dew of the dawn, and the earth will give [rise] to the departed spirits.” (Isaiah 26:18-19)** You know what he’s doing. He’s taking them right to the future and he’s showing them that it is only God who can save. It is only God who can rescue. It is only God who can bring the dead alive. And as he shows us this it is absolutely awesome. And I want you to see what God does is He plants truth in the Old Testament. He waters it. He waters it. He waters it. As he waters it it is a growing increasing progressive revelation. So He begins in the Old Testament and then it comes into full bloom and harvest time in the New Testament. So watch what He is saying here. **“...[The] corpses will rise. You who lie in the dust, awake and shout for joy, for your dew is as the dew of the dawn, and the earth will give birth to the departed spirits.” (Isaiah 26:19)** Now this is a segment, Isaiah 24, 25, 26 and 27. And in Isaiah 24 “earth” was all over the place. I mean we colored it brown. We double underlined it in green and you see “the earth,” “the earth,” “the earth,” “the earth.” The earth is going to experience the judgments of God. But the earth is also going to give up the righteous dead. Now there’s a contrast here. And if you did your study, if you downloaded it you saw in verse 14, **“The dead will not live, the departed spirits will not rise; therefore You have punished and destroyed them, and You have wiped out all remembrance of them.” (Isaiah 26:14)** I mean there is quite a final chapter in Isaiah. I’m not going to take you there now, but you can cheat and you can read the final chapter and then we’ll study it later. But he says how there is a group of dead that will never rise. There is a group of spirits that will be destroyed by God, not wiped out, but punished and destroyed in this destruction. There is another group of dead that are going to awake, arise

and shout for joy. And they're going to shout for joy why? Because God has brought them alive. Now God tells us this and He alludes to; well, He doesn't allude to it. He just flat out states it in Daniel chapter 12. He lets us know that there is a resurrection coming. He says in verse 2, **"Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt."** (Daniel 12:2) In other words there is a resurrection. There's a resurrection, as John chapter 5 says, of the just and of the unjust. (See John 5:24-29) It is the righteous that God raises—that goes into eternal life. It is the unjust—the wicked—that will never learn, as we saw, that will never respond to God. Although they experience the earth's judgments they never bow to the one that brings those judgments. They never learn. They continue to do wickedly. They will pay for it. Precious One, there is a payday someday. And only the righteous, only the righteous are going to enjoy that eternal city, Jerusalem. Only the righteous are going to live forever. Only the righteous are going to have their tears wiped away by the hand of God. If you can barely lift a prayer just know this, God is there and He wants to bring about your healing, your life. We'll talk about it in just a minute.

PART TWO

"Come, my people, [come], enter into your rooms...close the door behind you [and wait]...until..." the indignation of God, the judgment of God, the wrath of God, **"...runs its course."** (Isaiah 26:20) And then know that you will be safe. We have come to that final segment, those last two verses of Isaiah chapter 26. And as we look at it, and as we look at this peace, the peace that belongs to the righteous because they're trusting in God and because in Him they have an everlasting rock and He will not be moved, as we look at this final two verses of Isaiah chapter 26 we see an invitation to the righteous. Watch what he says. **"Come, my people..."** (Isaiah 26:20) Who are God's people? It's those that are righteous. Now,

what does “righteous” mean? It means they have been declared righteous. They can not become righteous on their own. So they have been declared righteous by God. They have been made righteous by God. It ought to make you think of 2 Corinthians chapter 5 where it says, and “[God] **made Him** [Jesus] **who knew no sin to be sin** [for us]....” (2 Corinthians 5:21) God took your sin and my sin and the sin of the whole world and what He did was He took that sin and put it on Jesus and “[Jesus] **who knew no sin** [was made to be sin for us] **that** [you and I] **might be made the righteousness of God in Him.**” (2 Corinthians 5:21, KJV) How am I made righteous? I am made righteous because Jesus, the Righteous One, was made to be sin for me. He paid for my sin in full. He died. He was buried but He rose again from the dead and God’s holiness and righteousness was satisfied because my debt was paid in full. And because my debt was paid in full then I am declared righteous. I am given in exchange for my sin the righteousness of Jesus Christ. So just imagine a big weight of blackness on top of you. That is your sin. You give it to Jesus Christ. When you give it to Jesus Christ then Jesus pays for your sin in full. And Jesus in turn imparts to you His righteousness. So just imagine yourself there clothed in robes of righteousness, clothed in white robes, which is the righteous deeds and the righteous acts of God. And that’s what he’s saying in chapter 26 in verse 11 to 19. He’s talking about this righteousness that raises us from the dead and enables us to live forever. Then he says, “**Come, my people, enter into your rooms...close [the] doors behind you; hide for a little while until indignation runs its course.**” (Isaiah 26:20) Whose indignation? God’s indignation with sin. Just stop and think, if God had to judge our sin and He judged it by putting it on Jesus Christ, “[If] **God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life,**” (John 3:16) if God put His judgment on Jesus, you’ve got to know that God has got to judge the world that will not believe in Jesus, that will not turn from their wickedness, that

will not bow the knee to Him. And so this is what he says, **“For behold, the LORD...,”** and listen carefully. I believe that this is much closer than we think. **“For behold, the LORD [will] come out from His place....”** God is coming from heaven. **“...To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; and the earth will reveal her bloodshed and will no longer cover her slain.” (Isaiah 26:21)** Now when you look at Numbers chapter 35 you see a very important principle there in verse 33. He says, **“So you shall not pollute the land in which you are; for blood pollutes the land...,”** murder, abortion is polluting the land. **“...And no expiation can be made for the land for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it.” (Numbers 35:33)** And so what God is saying is, Jesus is coming as the blood avenger. And Jesus is going to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity. This is what we see. The Lord is coming. Now what does he say? [“Come and hide and shut yourself in.”] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 26:20) Think with me. Think with me when God judged the earth in the days of Noah because the earth was corrupt and the wickedness of man. Man only did wickedness. And so what did God do? He said He was going to destroy the earth, but there was a righteous man, Noah and his sons and their wives. And so He said to them in Genesis and you might want to write it down, 7, verse 16, “Come into the ark.” And God closed the door. (See Genesis 7:16) Come, hide a little while, and the judgment of God came upon that ark. But those that came in and those that were hidden in the ark survived. Then stop and think about the Passover. God is judging Egypt. He is sending His angel of death, but the Jews that put the blood over the lintel of the doorpost there, the angel of death sees that. The household is inside; the angel of death sees the blood and passes over. (See Exodus 12) **“Come [in]...hide...a little while [while God’s] indignation runs its course.” (Isaiah 26:20)** And so then what do you and I see? Well I want to leave you with a promise and then we will develop it more tomorrow. But in Revelation chapter 3 in God’s Word to the church at Philadelphia this is

what He says. In verse 10, He says, **“Because you have kept the word of My perseverance...”**, because you have persevered, because you have remained righteous **“...I [will] also keep you from...”**, “ek,” “e-k”, out of **“...the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole [earth], to...those who dwell on the earth.” (Revelation 3:10)** How is He going to keep us out of that hour of testing? We’re going to see it tomorrow, but this I want to give to you. God is going to send His wrath upon the earth. But when He does He is going to protect His own. You and I need not fear what is coming. He says, **“Come my people, enter in and shut the door.”** There is a guarantee of God’s protection for us during this time that is coming. Yes, there are martyrs and we have had people that have labored for us in foreign countries, one was beheaded; one was shot to death; others have been tortured in prison, and God was with them and God sustained them. And they had that hope that the dead would rise, that they would awake and that they would shout for joy. The righteous are hidden in Him, Precious One. The righteous come into Him and shut the door and there’s a cure in the hour of judgment. Remember that and be righteous.