

WEEK #6

Isaiah 2:5 – 4:6

The Day of the Lord





Isaiah by Mail

A Bible Study Born in the Midst of
Covid

Monday, July 13, 2020

Hi Everyone!

The questions I am sending you for this week are all about the Day of the Lord.

- In Isaiah's day there would be a **small Day of the LORD** when the Assyrian and Babylonian armies would destroy Israel and Judah. The

people would be murdered, raped, starved, and led away captive.

- And then someday there would be the **big Day of the LORD** – when the LORD would judge not just Israel but the whole earth – and that Day of the LORD has not yet come. It is part of the End Times which we have still not seen.

This week as you read through the rest of Isaiah 2, and then also Isaiah 3 and 4, I would like you to be asking yourself this question:

*"If the **big Day of the Lord** should begin in my lifetime, what would I be most concerned about?"*

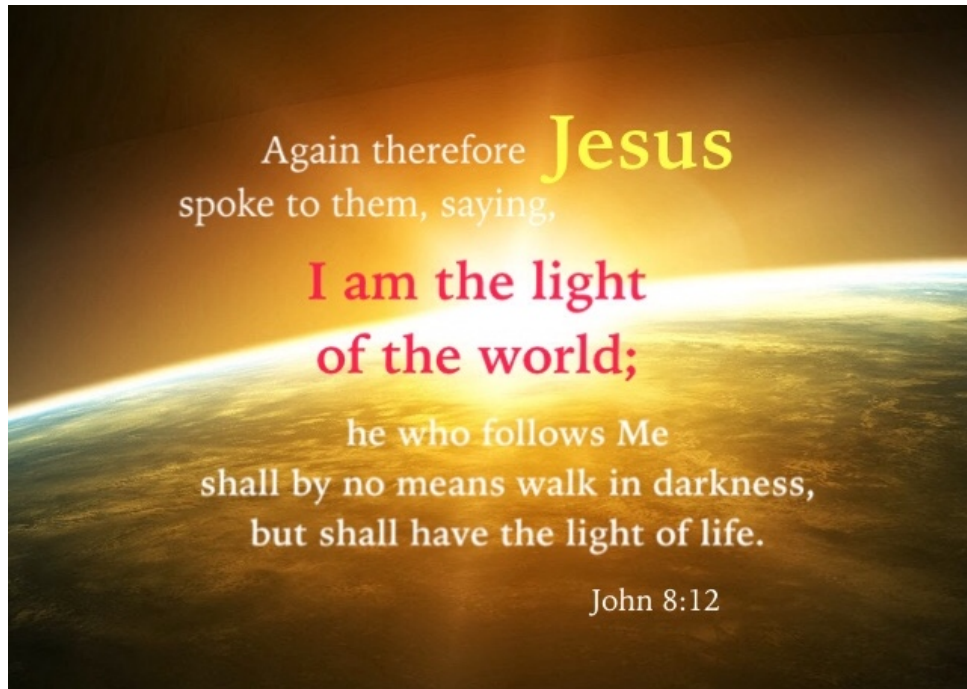
I'm not saying all of us would have the same answer to this question...I just think we all ought to think about it.

If the Lord shows you this week some new things to do or change in your life, so that you can be ready for that Day should it arrive during your lifetime, He will also give you the supernatural desire and ability to do it. That's the way He works. He never gives you a job you must do on your own. He is always there to give you light to see how to do it, and His strength for the doing.

Our memory verse this week is short: "...Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord." I suggest you say it over and over again to yourself as you get up, fix meals, go to work, play with your kids, do the ironing (oh, right...nobody does

that anymore!) , and everything else which makes up your day. Let those few words run through your mind and your heart all week long.

And while you are thinking about the Day of the Lord this week, here's something to focus your thoughts in the right direction: If you believe in Jesus, you have Light in you and with you always! You need not fear the Day of the Lord....and you can put to rest anyone else's fear by introducing them to The Light.



- Kathleen

Isaiah 2:5 – 4:6 The Day of the Lord Questions

*Memory Verse for this week: Isaiah 2:5
“...Come and let us walk in the light of the Lord.”*

1. 2:5 What is the plea Isaiah makes as he begins to describe this terrible and frightening “Day of the Lord” which is coming?
2. 2:6-8 What are some of the things God’s people will be trusting in when the Day of the Lord arrives?
3. 2:9-17 What is one characteristic of Israel which will be destroyed in the Day of the Lord?
4. 2:18 What is one thing the LORD will make sure is completely abolished during the Day of the Lord.?
5. 2:19-21 What will people’s reaction be to the Day of the Lord? (also see Revelation 6:15-17)
6. 2:22 What are people told to absolutely not trust in during the Day of the Lord?

7. Read all of 3:1 through 4:1, and notice how different groups of people will be affected by the Day of the Lord.

- 3:1-9, :11-15 The leaders and rulers and strong men of Israel.
- 3:10 The righteous.
- 3:16 - 4:1 The women. (Why are women a separate category by themselves?)

8. 4:2-6 What will the outcome be of The Day of the Lord?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

9. If the Day of the Lord should begin in our lifetime, what would you be most concerned about?

10. What should you and I do, knowing that the Day of the Lord is coming?
Isaiah 2:5, Isaiah 3:10, I Peter 4:7-11

Isaiah 2:5 – 4:6 – The Day of the Lord

Kathleen's Answers & Comments

Memory Verse: Isaiah 2:5

“..Come and let us walk in the light of the Lord.”

The people of Israel had adopted the habits of the pagan nations which surrounded them...and they were exactly the opposite of the ways of the LORD.

Therefore...the Day of the LORD was going to come. The Day of the LORD refers to judgment. It's the time when God's wrath lets loose.

The Day of the LORD Isaiah spoke about was, indeed, coming – in two parts:

- In Isaiah's day there would be a **small Day of the LORD** when the Assyrian and Babylonian armies would destroy Israel and Judah. The people would be murdered, raped, starved, and led away captive.
- And then someday there would be the **big Day of the LORD** – when the LORD would judge not just Israel but the whole earth – and that Day of the LORD has not yet come. It is part of the End Times which we have still not seen.

From the time of Adam and Eve, Cain & Abel, Noah, Moses, the judges, and the kings, the LORD God had been holding back His judgment on Israel. He had every right to simply incinerate these people who loved sin more than they loved Him...but He hadn't done it. He waited. He kept giving them one more chance and one more chance to learn His ways and come to Him in faith.

Now Isaiah was beginning to sound the alarm. The **small Day of the LORD** was coming soon to Israel. It would not be put off forever. The time of waiting and mercy would end.

As we read Isaiah we can't help but realize that the alarm continues to sound, though, because the **big Day of the Lord** is coming soon for us!

1. 2:5 What is the plea Isaiah makes as he begins to describe this terrible and frightening “Day of the Lord” which is coming?

Walk in the light of the Lord. This is our memory verse this week. What does it mean? Make your life decisions based on what you see in God's character, God's ways, God's rules, God's plans. Those are the ways of light.

2. 2:6-8 What are some of the things God's people will be trusting in when the Day of the Lord arrives?

Isaiah's warnings to Israel are also God's warnings to us. In 2:6-8 He tells them some of the things they will be trusting in when the Day of the Lord arrives:

- "filled with eastern ways" – meaning they have adopted the ungodly ways of their neighbors.
- "soothsayers like the Philistines" – looking to fortune-tellers instead of the prophets of God to know what the future holds.
- "pleased with the children of foreigners" – making friends with the people who do not love the LORD or His ways.
- "land full of silver and gold and treasures" – very prosperous.
- "land full of horses and chariots" – very powerful in the world's eyes.
- "land full of idols" – so many things they worship and adore – more than the LORD.
- "worship the work of their own hands" – they worship what they can accomplish, what they can create, what they can think.

If you re-read each of those bullet items, you can see our own culture described in perfect detail. Look at each of those bullet items above and ask yourself what you should do differently in order to not be living these same mistakes yourself.

3. 2:9-17 What is one characteristic of Israel which will be destroyed in the Day of the Lord?
Pride.

4. 2:18 What is one thing the LORD will make sure is completely abolished during the Day of the Lord?
Idols.

5. 2:19-21 What will people's reaction be to the Day of the Lord? (also see *Revelation 6:15-17*)

How will the people of Israel react to the **small Day of the LORD**? They will run and hide. They will know that it is the One, True God Who is causing the devastation around them, and they will realize it is because of their own sin that He is bringing down judgment. Their idols will no longer be useful - they will be like yesterday's tossed salad – spoiled and no longer appealing.

But...even though Israel as a nation runs and hides and realizes the uselessness of their old idols...do they repent? Nope. They hide. They pray for the rocks to shield them from God. But they do not repent.

But, and this is very cool, when the **big Day of the Lord** comes someday, Israel will repent! Most of the world will run and hide, (see *Revelation 6:15-17*, and *Revelation 9:20&21*), but Israel will repent! (*Zechariah 12:10*)

It is interesting to note that punishments and tragedies will be handed out all around...but there will be righteous believers in the midst of it all...and they will be OK. *"It shall be well with them"* Isaiah 3:10. They will do good things, and they will see good results from those good things. (see *Revelation 13:9&10*)

6. 2:22 What are people told to absolutely not trust in during the Day of the Lord?

Any person who would lead them away from the ways of God.

7. Read all of 3:1 through 4:1, and notice how different groups of people will be affected by the Day of the Lord.

- 3:1-9, :11-15 The leaders and rulers and strong men of Israel. They will be totally judged and humiliated and taken down. No man in Israel will even desire to be a leader or ruler. (:6&7)

- 3:10 The righteous. They will do good things and be protected.

- 3:16 - 4:1 The women. All the jewels, fine clothing, and status ("bling") they love will be taken away from them. They will beg men to marry them and take care of them, since their beauty and finery is gone.

8. 4:2-6 What will the outcome be of The Day of the Lord?
And what comes after the Day of the LORD?

A beautiful, healthy, strong tree! Jesus Christ Himself is the "branch" that will shoot forth out of the rubble of the Day of the LORD.
(*Revelation 22:1-5*)

People will survive, and those who do will enter into the Kingdom of God. There will be a cloud – the Glory of God – over the world. And there will be shade and refuge and shelter – forever more.