

A Study of the Prophets

O.T. Survey Lesson 136--Isaiah 56:9-59:21

Introduction: In contrast with the good news of deliverance from the captivity and the establishment of the Messianic kingdom, Isaiah also must speak concerning of the present evils of his own day. In this section we find sermons Isaiah delivered perhaps late in life which reveal the continued degradation of the southern kingdom.

Lesson aim: To show God's desire to save even those who have rejected Him.

Rebuke to those who refuse salvation--Isaiah 56:9-57:21

1. What does God affirm about the watchmen of Judah? (56:9-12)
2. Describe the activities of the Israelites God rebukes (57:10).
3. What charge did God make against His people? (57:11-13) Who did He say would inherit the land?
4. What did God indicate He would do in the future (57:14-21). How is the proclamation of 57:19 fulfilled?

True vs. false worship--Isaiah 58:1-14

1. What did the people of Judah profess to do? (v. 2) Yet with what did God charge them? (v. 1) What question did the people ask God? (v. 3)
2. Describe the kind of fasting the people of Judah were practicing (v. 3-5).
3. Describe the kind of fasting God really wanted (v. 6-7).
4. What blessing did God say those who truly turn to Him would enjoy? (v. 8-12)

5. In what way did God want His people to "remember the sabbath day"? (v. 13) What blessings did God promise? (v. 14)

Dealing with Israel's sins--Isaiah 59:1-21

1. Why was Israel not delivered from her enemies? (v. 1-2)
2. With what sins does God charge Israel? (v. 3-8)
3. What is Isaiah doing in v. 9-15? What does Isaiah affirm about God's people?
4. What did God observe about His people? (v. 16) What did God determine to do about this? (v. 17-19)
5. What did God promise to give to Zion and Jacob? (v. 20-21) How is this fulfilled? (Cf. Rom. 11:26) What did God say was the contents of this covenant God would make with His people?