

Notes: January 19, 2019

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tov
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: *Revealing The Kingdom Part 5 - More Through Isaiah*

Here is a summary of Adonai's revelation to Yesha'yahu...

1:1–26 This is the vision of Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) the son of Amotz. The vision of Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) begins with God issuing a formal indictment against Y'hudah (Judah) and Yerushalayim (Jerusalem). In other words judgment. This first vision is linked to the reign of four Judean kings and spans the whole period of Yesha'yahu's ministry.

Concerning the vision, Rabbi Abraham Heschel states, "To the person endowed with prophetic sight, everyone else appears blind; to a person whose ear perceives God's voice, everyone else appears deaf".

Know that Adonai has opened your eyes to see and your ears to hear what He is saying. What He says, He will do. You are His witnesses to these things. In bearing witness you are to profess these things. In order to profess these things you must first know what they are and second you must be able to understand what Adonai is saying. Many think they see. Many think they understand. Unfortunately, what they see and what they understand is contrary to what Adonai is revealing.

Pay attention to the focus...

God begins his announcement of judgment by accusing the Nation of rebellion (v. 2), abandoning him. This would be a constant theme throughout Yesha'yahu's writings, (v. 3), corruption (v. 4), violence (v. 15), injustice (vv. 16–17), religious apostasy (vv. 10–23), materialism (2:7), idolatry (2:8), immorality among women (3:16–26), and occultism (2:6; 8:19–20). Because of these sins, God promises to avenge himself and restore the Nation once it has been judged (1:25–26).

Yet, there would continue to be an aspect of hope woven throughout the harsh reality of Israel's rebellion towards Adonai.

So, when we get to chapter 40, what is identified as the second half of the book, we come to the comforting of Israel. A reassuring, yet critical portion of Yesha'yahu.

40:1–66:24 the theme of “Comfort and keep comforting my people.” is most prevalent throughout these chapters. The Haftarah readings associated with Deuteronomy comprise many of these passages. For which in 2016 I shared with the congregation a 7 part series on the 7 comforting messages of Isaiah. (the notes are posted in our downloads section).

Chapters. 40–66 present the reader with a different emphasis. In chs. 1–39, Yesha'yahu emphasizes God's judgment, interspersed with hope for the future blessing, while in chs. 40–66, the author emphasizes the future hope and work of the “servant.” The theme of judgment is not abandoned but is subdued. Adonai did not ignore the reality that was to come, being Israel's judgment and their imminent exile from the land as a result of that judgment.

Yet today's focus will be on the last 7 chapters of Yesha'yahu.

Chapters 60–66 form the last major section in the second half of this book, describing Isra'el's future liberation and restoration to their climatic goal. In other words, the restoration of the Kingdom of Adonai.

Yeshua's talmidim asked Him prior to His ascension...

Act 1:6 When they were together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore self-rule to Isra'el?"

Yeshua's response to this question was...

Act 1:7 He answered, "You don't need to know the dates or the times; the Father has kept these under his own authority.

Act 1:8 But you will receive power when the Ruach HaKodesh comes upon you; you will be my witnesses both in Yerushalayim and in all Y'hudah and Shomron, indeed to the ends of the earth!"

You will be my witnesses!!!

Witnesses to what?

Witnesses to the promise that Adonai has conveyed through Yeshua and the prophecies given to Yesha'yahu's becoming a reality.

Chapters 60–62 emphasize four changes that will occur when the future blessing arrives:

(1) The glory of God will return to Isra'el in the person of the Messiah, resulting in Isra'el becoming a light to the nations (60:2–3, 19; 61:1–3; 62:2–3, 11)

Isa 60:1 "Arise, shine [*Yerushalayim*], for your light has come, the glory of Adonai has risen over you.

Isa 60:2 For although darkness covers the earth and thick darkness the peoples; on you Adonai will rise; over you will be seen his glory.

The Light has come...

Joh 8:12 Yeshua spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light which gives life."

And will ultimately return.

Isa 61:1 *The Spirit of Adonai Elohim is upon me, because Adonai has anointed me to announce good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted; to proclaim freedom to the captives, to let out into light those bound in the dark;*

Isa 61:2 to proclaim the year of the favor of Adonai and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn,

Isa 61:3 yes, provide for those in Tziyon who mourn, giving them garlands instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a cloak of praise instead of a heavy spirit, so that they will be called oaks of righteousness planted by Adonai, in which he takes pride.

We see in Luke 4, this very passage of Scripture the center of this moment when Yeshua was in the Synagogue.

Luk 4:14 Yeshua returned to the Galil in the power of the Spirit, and reports about him spread throughout the countryside.

Luk 4:15 He taught in their synagogues, and everyone respected him.

Luk 4:16 Now when he went to Natzeret, where he had been brought up, on Shabbat he went to the synagogue as usual. He stood up to read,

Luk 4:17 and he was given the scroll of the prophet Yesha`yahu. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written,

Luk 4:18 "The Spirit of Adonai is upon me; therefore he has anointed me to announce Good News to the poor; he has sent me to proclaim freedom for the imprisoned and renewed sight for the blind, to release those who have been crushed,

Luk 4:19 to proclaim a year of the favor of Adonai."

Luk 4:20 After closing the scroll and returning it to the shammash, he sat down; and the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on him.

Luk 4:21 He started to speak to them: "Today, as you heard it read, this passage of the Tanakh was fulfilled!"

Notice what was read and what was missing.

Based on the Words of Yeshua, what He shared at that moment had been fulfilled. The remainder of the passage is still yet to be accomplished. Hence the continuation of the future restoration of Israel.

Isa 62:1 For Tziyon's sake I will not be silent, for Yerushalayim's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out brightly and her salvation like a blazing torch.

Isa 62:2 The nations will see your vindication and all kings your glory. Then you will be called by a new name which Adonai himself will pronounce.

Isa 62:3 You will be a glorious crown in the hand of Adonai, a royal diadem held by your God.

When you consider all of these verses, they go back to my previous sermons on the establishment of the Kingdom and its foundation. Promises were made long ago by Adonai. It is by His Word that these promises establishing the Kingdom will come to fruition. If you take only one thing away from this message, let it be that Adonai's Word is true.

(2) God will bring Isra'el back to the Land to rebuild her cities (60:4, 9; 61:4; 61:7; 62:7, 10)

Isa 60:4 Raise your eyes and look around: they are all assembling and coming to you; your sons are coming from far off, your daughters being carried on their nurses' hips.

Isa 60:9 The coastlands are putting their hope in me, with the 'Tarshish' ships in the lead, to bring your children from far away, and with them their silver and gold, for the sake of Adonai your God, the Holy One

of Isra'el, who glorifies you.

Isa 61:4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins, restore sites long destroyed; they will renew the ruined cities, destroyed many generations ago.

Isa 61:7 Because of your shame, which was doubled, and because they cried, "They deserve disgrace," therefore in their land what they own will be doubled, and joy forever will be theirs.

Isa 62:6 I have posted watchmen on your walls, Yerushalayim; they will never fall silent, neither by day nor by night. You who call on Adonai, give yourselves no rest;

Isa 62:7 and give him no rest till he restores Yerushalayim and makes it a praise on earth.

Isa 62:10 Go on through, go on through the gates, clear the way for the people! Build up a highway, build it up! Clear away the stones! Raise a banner for the peoples!

All of these promises revealed by Adonai to Yesha'yahu have their origin in Torah. A promise made long before Israel's transgression and expulsion from the land...

Deu 30:1 "When the time arrives that all these things have come upon you, both the blessing and the curse which I have presented to you; and you are there among the nations to which Adonai your God has driven you; then, at last, you will start thinking about what has happened to you;

Deu 30:2 and you will return to Adonai your God and pay attention to what he has said, which will be exactly what I am ordering you to do today - you and your children, with all your heart and all your being.

Deu 30:3 At that point, Adonai your God will reverse your exile and show you mercy; he will return and gather you from all the peoples to which Adonai your God scattered you.

Deu 30:4 If one of yours was scattered to the far end of the sky, Adonai your God will gather you even from there; he will go there and get you.

Deu 30:5 Adonai your God will bring you back into the land your ancestors possessed, and you will possess it; he will make you prosper there, and you will become even more numerous than your ancestors.

Many of you are currently studying Nehemiah with Jeri. A recount of Adonai calling Israel back to the land after judgment. Nehemiah's focus is on rebuilding the walls of the city whereby protection would be established for those who would come back to reside in the city. If it happened here, who's to say it won't happen again. In reality, it already has happened in that Israel became a nation again in 1948 and is flourishing 71 years later.

So, why isn't the time of Nehemiah the fulfillment of these passages to return and rebuild? I would respond, the answer as to the why is found in parts 3 and 4 of this presentation of Yesha'yahu...

(3) The nations will serve Isra'el and worship God (60:5-16; 61:5-6)

This concept of the nations serving Israel is not mentioned much in the body of Messiah. Unfortunately, it is not mentioned because the reality of Scripture being Israel centered is not mentioned, not embraced, not taught. The tendency is to change the focus of Scripture from Israel to the Church. Unfortunately, when you change this vital focus, it changes our understanding. In changing our understanding, it conceals the reality that Scripture is revealing. Any wonder why there are so many in the body of believers that don't understand these truths...it is because they are never taught them.

Israel will be the center of worship, primarily because Yerushalayim, which resides in Israel will be where the throne of God and of the Lamb will reside. It will be there that all will go to worship Him. Everything I am conveying here, goes back to the first two parts of these sermons, establishing the foundation of the Kingdom, first the promise of a King and second the establishment through the Covenants. So, when we come to the nations, Adonai reveals through Yesha'yahu...

Isa 60:5 Then you will see and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with delight; for the riches of the seas will be brought to you, the wealth of nations will come to you.

Isa 60:6 Caravans of camels will cover your land, young camels from Midyan and `Eifah, all of them coming from Sh'va, bringing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of Adonai.

Isa 60:7 All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered for you, the rams of N'vayot will be at your service; they will come up and be received on my altar, as I glorify my glorious house.

Isa 60:8 "Who are these, flying along like clouds, like doves to their dovescotes?"

Isa 60:9 The coastlands are putting their hope in me, with the 'Tarshish' ships in the lead, to bring your children from far away, and with them their silver and gold, for the sake of Adonai your God, the Holy One of Isra'el, who glorifies you.

Isa 60:10 Foreigners will rebuild your walls, their kings will be at your service; for in my anger I struck you, but in my mercy I pity you.

Isa 60:11 Your gates will always be open, they will not be shut by day or by night, so that people can bring you the wealth of nations, with their kings led in procession.

Isa 60:12 For the nation or kingdom that won't serve you will perish; yes, those nations will be utterly destroyed.

Isa 60:13 "The glory of the L'vanon will come to you, cypresses together with elm trees and larches, to beautify the site of my sanctuary — I will glorify the place where I stand.

Isa 60:14 The children of your oppressors will come and bow low before you, all who despised you will fall at your feet, calling you the city of Adonai, Tziyon of the Holy One of Isra'el.

Isa 60:15 "In the past you were abandoned and hated, so that no one would even pass through you; but now I will make you the pride of the ages, a joy for many generations.

Isa 60:16 You will drink the milk of nations, you will nurse at royal breasts and know that I, Adonai, am your Savior, your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Ya`akov.

Isa 61:5 Strangers will stand and feed your flocks, foreigners plow your land and tend your vines;

Isa 61:6 but you will be called cohanim of Adonai, spoken of as ministers to our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and revel in their riches.

(4) The Nation will be characterized by righteousness (60:18, 21–22; 61:8–11; 62:1–2).

Isa 60:18 Violence will no longer be heard in your land, desolation or destruction within your borders; instead, you will call your walls Salvation and your gates Praise.

Isa 60:19 "No more will the sun be your light by day, nor will moonlight shine on you; instead Adonai will be your light forever and your God your glory.

Isa 60:20 No longer will your sun go down; your moon will no longer wane; for Adonai will be your light forever; your days of mourning will end.

Isa 60:21 All your people will be tzaddikim; they will inherit the land forever; they will be the branch I planted, my handiwork, in which I take pride.

Isa 60:22 The smallest will grow to a thousand, the weakest will become a mighty nation. I, Adonai, when the right time comes, will quickly bring it about."

Isa 61:8 "For I, Adonai, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offerings. So I will be faithful to reward them and make an eternal covenant with them."

Isa 61:9 Their descendants will be known among the nations, their offspring among the peoples; all who see them will acknowledge that they are the seed Adonai has blessed.

Isa 61:10 I am so joyful in Adonai! My soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in salvation, dressed me with a robe of triumph, like a bridegroom wearing a festive turban, like a bride adorned with her jewels.

Isa 61:11 For just as the earth brings forth its plants, or a garden makes its plants spring up, so Adonai,

God, will cause victory and glory to spring up before all nations.

Isa 62:1 For Tziyon's sake I will not be silent, for Yerushalayim's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out brightly and her salvation like a blazing torch.

Isa 62:2 The nations will see your vindication and all kings your glory. Then you will be called by a new name which Adonai himself will pronounce.

All of these promises focused on the restoration of Israel and a return to righteousness also comes from Torah...the one verse I didn't read from Deuteronomy 30...

Deu 30:6 Then Adonai your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your children, so that you will love Adonai your God with all your heart and all your being, and thus you will live.

We see this happening in real time. Jews are returning to the land while at the same time Adonai is enabling them to see Him and return to Him. This is Messianic Judaism.

Yes, there are many still blinded by this reality and residing both in the land and in the diaspora, yet we see a move of Adonai unlike anything we have seen since the events recounted in Acts 2...

Act 2:1 The festival of Shavu`ot arrived, and the believers all gathered together in one place.

Act 2:2 Suddenly there came a sound from the sky like the roar of a violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Act 2:3 Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire, which separated and came to rest on each one of them.

Act 2:4 They were all filled with the Ruach HaKodesh and began to talk in different languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

Act 2:5 Now there were staying in Yerushalayim religious Jews from every nation under heaven.

Act 2:6 When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered; they were confused, because each one heard the believers speaking in his own language.

Act 2:7 Totally amazed, they asked, "How is this possible? Aren't all these people who are speaking from the Galil?"

Act 2:8 How is it that we hear them speaking in our native languages?

Act 2:9 We are Parthians, Medes, Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Y'hudah, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia,

Act 2:10 Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome;

Act 2:11 Jews by birth and proselytes; Jews from Crete and from Arabia. . . ! How is it that we hear them speaking in our own languages about the great things God has done?"

Act 2:12 Amazed and confused, they all went on asking each other, "What can this mean?"

To where Kefa, transformed himself gives one of the most powerful sermons about the Kingdom...

Act 2:14 Then Kefa stood up with the Eleven and raised his voice to address them: "You Judeans, and all of you staying here in Yerushalayim! Let me tell you what this means! Listen carefully to me!

Act 2:15 "These people aren't drunk, as you suppose — it's only nine in the morning.

Act 2:16 No, this is what was spoken about through the prophet Yo'el:

Act 2:17 'Adonai says: "In the Last Days, I will pour out from my Spirit upon everyone. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

Act 2:18 Even on my slaves, both men and women, will I pour out from my Spirit in those days; and they will prophesy.

Act 2:19 I will perform miracles in the sky above and signs on the earth below — blood, fire and thick smoke.

Act 2:20 The sun will become dark and the moon blood before the great and fearful Day of Adonai comes.

Act 2:21 And then, whoever calls on the name of Adonai will be saved." '

Act 2:22 "Men of Isra'el! Listen to this! Yeshua from Natzeret was a man demonstrated to you to have been from God by the powerful works, miracles and signs that God performed through him in your presence. You yourselves know this.

Act 2:23 This man was arrested in accordance with God's predetermined plan and foreknowledge; and, through the agency of persons not bound by the Torah, you nailed him up on a stake and killed him!

Act 2:24 "But God has raised him up and freed him from the suffering of death; it was impossible that death could keep its hold on him.

Act 2:25 For David says this about him: 'I saw Adonai always before me, for he is at my right hand, so that I will not be shaken.

Act 2:26 For this reason, my heart was glad; and my tongue rejoiced; and now my body too will live on in the certain hope

Act 2:27 that you will not abandon me to Sh'ol or let your Holy One see decay.

Act 2:28 You have made known to me the ways of life; you will fill me with joy by your presence.'

Act 2:29 "Brothers, I know I can say to you frankly that the patriarch David died and was buried — his tomb is with us to this day.

Act 2:30 Therefore, since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him that one of his descendants would sit on his throne,

Act 2:31 he was speaking in advance about the resurrection of the Messiah, that it was he who was not abandoned in Sh'ol and whose flesh did not see decay.

Act 2:32 God raised up this Yeshua! And we are all witnesses of it!

Act 2:33 "Moreover, he has been exalted to the right hand of God; has received from the Father what he promised, namely, the Ruach HaKodesh; and has poured out this gift, which you are both seeing and hearing.

Act 2:34 For David did not ascend into heaven. But he says,

Act 2:35 'Adonai said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." '

Act 2:36 Therefore, let the whole house of Isra'el know beyond doubt that God has made him both Lord and Messiah — this Yeshua, whom you executed on a stake!"

Act 2:37 On hearing this, they were stung in their hearts; and they said to Kefa and the other emissaries, "Brothers, what should we do?"

Act 2:38 Kefa answered them, "Turn from sin, return to God, and each of you be immersed on the authority of Yeshua the Messiah into forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Ruach HaKodesh!

Act 2:39 For the promise is for you, for your children, and for those far away — as many as Adonai our God may call!"

And the result...

Act 2:41 So those who accepted what he said were immersed, and there were added to the group that day about three thousand people.

They were added to the Kingdom.

You will experience many challenges along the way, but know this...The Kingdom is very real.

It is waiting for you at the end of the race.

We tend to focus on what transpires during "the race" based on our relationship with Adona through Yeshua. We tend to use our expectations of the relationship, whether prays have been answered or not as the litmus, the yardstick by which we base our relationship. My response...

Focus on the end and how you get there.

Pray for wisdom to understand and strength that will enable you to endure to the end. The end when you will reach your destination...the Kingdom.

It is not an easy journey, especially in this world. But, there will be no journey you experience in your lifetime that will be as rewarding as this one.

The Kingdom is real and the reality of it is you are being prepared for it.