

Isaiah 26

Judah's song

In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

“We have a strong city;
he sets up salvation
as walls and bulwarks.

² Open the gates,
that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

³ You keep him in perfect peace
whose mind is stayed on you,
because he trusts in you.

⁴ Trust in the LORD forever,
for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock.

⁵ For he has humbled
the inhabitants of the height,
the lofty city.

He lays it low, lays it low to the ground,
casts it to the dust.

⁶ The foot tramples it,
the feet of the poor,
the steps of the needy.”

⁷ The path of the righteous is level;
you make level the way of the righteous.

⁸ In the path of your judgments,
O LORD, we wait for you;
your name and remembrance
are the desire of our soul.

⁹ My soul yearns for you in the night;
my spirit within me earnestly seeks you.
For when your judgments are in the earth,
the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

¹⁰ If favour is shown to the wicked,
he does not learn righteousness;
in the land of uprightness he deals corruptly
and does not see the majesty of the LORD.

¹¹ O LORD, your hand is lifted up,
but they do not see it.
Let them see your zeal for your people, and be ashamed.
Let the fire for your adversaries consume them.

¹² O LORD, you will ordain peace for us,

for you have indeed done for us all our works.
13 O LORD our God,
other lords besides you have ruled over us,
but your name alone we bring to remembrance.
14 They are dead, they will not live;
they are shades, they will not arise;
to that end you have visited them with destruction
and wiped out all remembrance of them.
15 But you have increased the nation, O LORD,
you have increased the nation; you are glorified;
you have enlarged all the borders of the land.

16 O LORD, in distress they sought you;
they poured out a whispered prayer
when your discipline was upon them.
17 Like a pregnant woman
who writhes and cries out in her pangs
when she is near to giving birth,
so were we because of you, O LORD;
18 we were pregnant, we writhed,
but we have given birth to wind.
We have accomplished no deliverance in the earth,
and the inhabitants of the world have not fallen.
19 Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise.
You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy!
For your dew is a dew of light,
and the earth will give birth to the dead.

20 Come, my people, enter your chambers,
and shut your doors behind you;
hide yourselves for a little while
until the fury has passed by.
21 For behold, the LORD is coming out from his place
to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity,
and the earth will disclose the blood shed on it,
and will no more cover its slain.

Isaiah 27

The redemption of Israel

In that day the LORD with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea.

² In that day,
“A pleasant vineyard, sing of it!
³ I, the LORD, am its keeper;
every moment I water it.
Lest anyone punish it,
I keep it night and day;
⁴ I have no wrath.
Would that I had thorns and briers to battle!
I would march against them,
I would burn them up together.
⁵ Or let them lay hold of my protection,
let them make peace with me,
let them make peace with me.”

⁶ In days to come Jacob shall take root,
Israel shall blossom and put forth shoots
and fill the whole world with fruit.

⁷ Has he struck them as he struck those who struck them?
Or have they been slain as their slayers were slain?
⁸ Measure by measure, by exile you contended with them;
he removed them with his fierce breath in the day of the east wind.
⁹ Therefore by this the guilt of Jacob will be atoned for,
and this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin:
when he makes all the stones of the altars
like chalkstones crushed to pieces,
no Asherim or incense altars will remain standing.
¹⁰ For the fortified city is solitary,
a habitation deserted and forsaken, like the wilderness;
there the calf grazes;
there it lies down and strips its branches.
¹¹ When its boughs are dry, they are broken;
women come and make a fire of them.
For this is a people without discernment;
therefore he who made them will not have compassion on them;
he who formed them will show them no favour.

¹² In that day from the river Euphrates to the Brook of Egypt the LORD will thresh out the grain, and you will be gleaned one by one, O people of Israel. ¹³ And in that day a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were lost in the land of Assyria and those who were driven out to the land of Egypt will come and worship the LORD on the holy mountain at Jerusalem.

Cross References

Matthew 22 v 37: Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Romans 12 v 2: Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Philippians 2 v 5: In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus...

Colossians 3 v 2: Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Matthew 5 v 5: Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Ephesians 2 v 8 to 10: ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2 Timothy 1 v 10: ... but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Revelation 12 v 13, 14: ¹³ When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴ The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent’s reach.

1 Thessalonians 4 v 16, 17: ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

Matthew 24, v 21, 22, 30: ²¹ For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equalled again. ²² “If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened...” ³⁰ “Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.

Job 3 v 8: May those who curse days curse that day, those who are ready to rouse Leviathan.

Job 41 v 12: “I will not fail to speak of Leviathan’s limbs, its strength and its graceful form...”

Psalms 74 v 14: It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan, and gave it as food to the creatures of the desert.

Psalms 104 v 26: There the ships go to and fro, and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.

Genesis 3 v 1: Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

Revelation 13 v 1: The dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on its horns, and on each head a blasphemous name.

John 15 v 5, 8: ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing... ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Romans 11 v 26: ... and in this way all Israel will be saved.