

Isaiah 62

VV.1-5: God has plans for Israel and for the church. We are like a girl he had a crush on; that he helped and then we left him. He has been waiting a long time to have us to himself without distractions. He has an end game. He wants to be our desire. He wants to be the center of our life. He wants to share everything with us. Jesus is returning to earth to establish the proper order of things as he takes his throne as the King of Kings in Jerusalem.

He has offered a personal relationship to man throughout history. The first pass at harmony between God and man was in the beginning in the Garden of Eden. The distractions, natural restlessness and desires of man's heart took man out of God's protected environment. Adam and Eve had to mess with a beautiful thing because they did not have that inner peace and contentment. 1800 years later Noah's family got a fresh start. The world had gone mad; and God had to wipe out the insanity to save the last family of faith. Noah's sons carried sin into the new landscape; which culminated in the Tower of Babel disaster. Abraham was God's third try. God started a holy nation of believers that is set apart. Israel was the intended nation to take the gospel to the world. They did not. This chapter is about the 1,000 year millennium after the second coming of Jesus. The millennium has all of the elements of the three new beginnings: It is a garden-like paradise with God, and there will be a cleansing of violent men, and we will all be part of one family as redeemed and adopted children of Abraham (by faith).

God is making Jerusalem a place of his presence once again. The scriptures speak of the day God left Jerusalem.

Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD's glory. And the sound of the cherubims' wings was heard even to the outer court, as

the voice of the Almighty God when he speaks. And it came to pass, that when he had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, Take fire from between the wheels, from between the cherubims; then he went in, and stood beside the wheels. And one cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubims unto the fire that was between the cherubims, and took thereof, and put it into the hands of him that was clothed with linen: who took it, and went out. And there appeared in the cherubims the form of a man's hand under their wings. And when I looked, behold the four wheels by the cherubims, one wheel by one cherub, and another wheel by another cherub: and the appearance of the wheels was as the color of a beryl stone. And as for their appearances, they four had one likeness, as if a wheel had been in the midst of a wheel. When they went, they went upon their four sides; they turned not as they went, but to the place whither the head looked they followed it; they turned not as they went. And their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about, even the wheels that they four had. As for the wheels, it was cried unto them in my hearing, O wheel. And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, and the second face was the face of a man, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle. And the cherubims were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar. And when the cherubims went, the wheels went by them: and when the cherubims lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also turned not from beside them. When they stood, these stood; and when they were lifted up, these lifted up themselves also: for the spirit of the living creature was in them. Then the glory of the LORD departed from off the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubims. And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight: when they went out, the wheels also were beside them, and every one stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above. This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they were the cherubims. Everyone had four faces apiece, and every one four

wings; and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings. And the likeness of their faces was the same faces which I saw by the river of Chebar, their appearances and themselves: they went every one straight forward. (Ezekiel 10:4-22)

When Jesus returns with his saints he will come in power and glory. His people and Jerusalem will also be spectacular. He sees us like a precious and unique jewel. The Jews will have a new identity and a new name. The Jews will be a crown in the LORD's hand. They will be God's wife. The plans God has for the church are similar.

Israel is God's wife:

Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, says the Lord GOD, and thou became mine. Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil. I clothed thee also with broidered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk. I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck. And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head. Thus were thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment was of fine linen, and silk, and broidered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou were exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom.

And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it was perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, says the Lord GOD. But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and played the harlot because of thy renown, and poured out thy fornications on every one that passed by; his it was. (Ezekiel 16:8-15)

The church is the bride of Christ.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; (Ephesians 5:25)

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he says unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he says unto me, These are the true sayings of God. (Revelation 19:7-9)

Not only do the Jews have a new ID. We also have a new name in heaven.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches; To him that overcomes will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knows saving he that receives it. (Revelation 2:17)

VV.6-7: God has placed watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem awaiting his return.

Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. (Ezekiel 3:17)

Ezekiel was a prophet and a watchman. Like one who blows a trumpet when the enemy is attacking, so were the prophets warning the people when they were in danger of sin. The prophets are long-gone from Jerusalem. What kind of watchmen have never left Jerusalem?

"watcher"^[3] is a term used in connection with biblical angels. *Watcher* occurs in both plural and singular forms in the Book of Daniel (2nd century BC), where reference is made to their holiness.

But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. (Daniel 10:13)

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which stands for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. (Daniel 12:1)

Angels do not take their eyes off of God.

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. (Matthew 18:10)

They have enough eyes to watch God, us and the enemy at once.

When they went, they went upon their four sides; they turned not as they went, but to the place whither the head looked they followed it; they turned not as they went. And their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about, even the wheels that they four had. As for the wheels, it was cried unto them in my hearing, O wheel. (Ezekiel 10:11-13)

VV: 8-9: This is the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thundering, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigns. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he says to me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he says to me, These are the true sayings of God. (Revelation 19:6-9)

VV.10-12: Once the LORD returns the Holy Highway will be built for the whole world to come worship the king.