

Isaiah 60-62

Zion and the Lord's Favour

Choices

| Chapter | Option 1 | Option 2 |
|---------|------------|--------------|
| 57 | rebellion | refuge |
| 58 | ritual | relationship |
| 59 | separation | salvation |

Mission

...to redeem the Nation of Israel
and
save the other nations of the world

Outline

- announcement - God will restore Zion
- Role of the gentile nations in the new Zion
- God's messenger, the message, the reason, and the response
- Zion's new name
- Summary

Announcement

God will Restore Zion

1 ¶ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. 2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

(Is 60:1-2 NIV)

15 ...I will make you majestic forever, a joy from age to age.

19 The sun shall be no more your light by day ... the LORD will be your everlasting light...

20 the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.

21-22 Then will all your people be righteous and they will possess the land for ever.

Role of the Gentile Nations

60:3 Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

60:5 ...the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. 6 Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD. 7 All Kedar's flocks will be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth will serve you; they will be accepted as offerings on my altar, and I will adorn my glorious temple.

60:9 ¶ Surely the islands look to me; in the lead are the ships of Tarshish, bringing your sons from afar, with their silver and gold, to the honour of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendour. 10a "Foreigners will rebuild your walls, and their kings will serve you.

60: 11 Your gates will always stand open, they will never be shut, day or night, so that men may bring you the wealth of the nations—their kings led in triumphal procession.

60: 14 The sons of your oppressors will come bowing before you; all who despise you will bow down at your feet and will call you the City of the LORD, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

180 Turnaround

Initial reaction... warm up... embrace

“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour.”

Col 1:21

God's Messenger

16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

21 And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke 4:16-21

The Message

20 "The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the LORD.
21 "As for me, this is my covenant with them," says the LORD. "My Spirit, who is on you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of your children, or from the mouths of their descendants from this time on and for ever," says the LORD.

Is 59:20-21

Good News...

- bring good news to the poor...
- proclaim liberty to the captives...
- proclaim the year of the Lord's favour...
- Jesus is the Messiah

For he says, "In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation.

2 Cor 6:2

Isaiah 61

- 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
- 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of
ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD,

The Reason

61:3“... they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planning of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

61:9 Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the LORD has blessed.

The Response

61:10 ¶ ***I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God.*** for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation and wrapped me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom wears a turban and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Change from the inside

Who's willing?

Zion's new Name

62:2 The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.

62:3 you will be a crown of splendour in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. 4 No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah (which means "My delight is in her"), and your land Beulah ("Married One");

Watch

62:6 ¶ I have posted watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, 7 and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth.

Matt 6:9 ¶ "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Be Ready

62:10 ¶ Go out, go out through the gates; prepare a way for the people! Build it up, build up the highway; clear away the stones! Raise a banner for the peoples. 11 Look, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth, "Say to Daughter Zion: Look, your salvation is coming, His reward is with Him, and His recompense is before Him." 12 And they will be called the Holy People, the LORD's Redeemed; and you will be called Cared For, A City Not Deserted.

Actions Will be Judged

“... we walk by faith, not by sight 8 yet we are confident and satisfied to be out of the body and at home with the Lord. 9 Therefore, whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to be pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may be repaid for what he has done in the body, whether good or bad.

2Cor 5:7-10

Summary

watch, get ready...

look towards the future

while

enjoying and sharing the countless blessings

God has bestowed on us

through Christ Jesus our Lord.