

The Millennium Through the Eyes of Isaiah - FOT Day 1

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Well, who would have thought, here we are at the Feast of Tabernacles in 2022. This is my 56th after baptism and looking back on those days who would think we would still be here. I mean the earth would still be the way it is here, only worse. Who thought it would be here—that we would be here?

We are starting a very exciting time. Let's spend the time today examining what a mighty Prophet of God Almighty had to say about this time. Whose writings really are relevant for us today, as we celebrate this first day of the Feast of Tabernacles. That Prophet is the Prophet Isaiah. With that in mind, let's go to Isaiah 1:1 and set the stage for the writings of this Prophet. The first two words tell us a lot of information. It says, "The vision". We need to understand that this is a vision that Isaiah is seeing.

Isaiah 1:1 *The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. (KJV)*

Yes, there is much information there about the future of Judah and Jerusalem, not only in the coming century or two or three, but also for Judah and Jerusalem thousands of years later in our time.

1 continued) ... *in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. (KJV)*

Now here in Verse 2, Yehovah Himself, God Almighty speaks.

2) *Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, [This is what He says] "I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me." (KJV)*

And as we see today, the whole world is rebelling against Him.

3) *The ox knows its owner And the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, [The implication is Israel doesn't know Me, Yehovah, God Almighty.] My people do not consider."*

4) *Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. (KJV)*

This description obviously applied to Judah during Isaiah's lifetime. Anybody who has an eye to see and an ear to hear, it applies today to the United States, Canada, Australia, the UK, Western Europe and much of the world. A rebellious humankind, not knowing who God Almighty is.

So first of all, today we are going to look at a little bit of the background of Isaiah the Prophet just so we can understand who is writing this. Second, we are going to look at the writings of Isaiah as to what he had to say about this time that we are celebrating—the Millennium; about the meaning of these seven days that we keep and that we look forward to. So, the title of the sermon is:

The Millennium Through the Eyes of Isaiah

First, let's look at a little bit of history, a brief history about Isaiah. He was obviously a Prophet of God Almighty, the Most High God, Yehovah. His name, the name "Isaiah", means "Yehovah Is Salvation". When you think about it, those three words "Yehovah Is Salvation", kind of says it all, doesn't it? God Almighty is our salvation. Those three words are of ultimate importance. Isaiah was a contemporary of Jonah, Amos and Hosea in Israel and also of Micah in Judah. He lived in Jerusalem and he was married. His wife is called "The Prophetess" in Chapter 8. Like Miriam—Moses' sister—she was probably endowed with prophetic gifts. He had at least one son mentioned by name. We are told that he wore sackcloth; chapter 20 tells us that. My guess is it was probably to represent the repentance which he taught and was a visual example of being in a repentant attitude, which he hoped the nation of Judah would do. But we know they didn't. He even had to walk naked for three years. Now can you imagine that, walking naked through Jerusalem for three years to make a point? You can find that also in Chapter 20. The thing we come away with is, he was obedient in all manners and all matters. He prophesied for at least 40 years from about 740 BC – that was the last year of King Uzziah's reign. That is in Chapter 6. Then he prophesied during the reigns of King Jotham and Ahaz and finally to the time of Hezekiah just around 700 BC into the early 600's BC. With the death of King Uzziah in 740 BC—that is again in Chapter 6—it marked the end of what we would call today an "Indian Summer" for both Judah and Israel that they had enjoyed for about 50 years. They had about 50 years respite from outside aggression. It was like an Indian Summer to them. That would soon change and Isaiah was in the middle of it.

The rest of the century was dominated by predatory Assyrian Kings. Those Assyrian Kings were just ambitious to establish their empire. They were also a very vicious people. They were prone to plunder and pillage and rape. That was just part of their nature and their character. Once they conquered a nation, it was a serious policy to uproot the people and to transport them—whole populations—to other areas, which they did, as we know, with the Northern Ten Tribes. That was their way of keeping control of the people. Putting them into a new place—taking them away from the familiarity of where they grew up. In fact, later a Syrian King named Sargon II, chronicled the deportation. It was written out specifically, 27,290 Israelites. The Assyrians were famous for punishing any sign of rebellion. They did so with prompt and hideous reprisals, very similar to what Germany did to conquered nations during World War II. If you have studied that history, you know that if they, for example, conquered a village and if somehow one soldier—one Nazi soldier—was killed in that village after it was conquered, they would take all the men in that village and kill every one of them. Then they would rape all of the women, and they would burn the village to the ground. The Assyrians were very much like that.

In 735, Jerusalem felt the first shock wave of the approaching Assyrians. The armies of Israel, the Northern Ten Tribes, and Syria tried to force King Ahaz of Judah into an anti-Assyrian

coalition. Let's get together, Assyria, Northern Ten Tribes, Judah, and let's fight these Assyrians. Isaiah confronts that in Chapter 7. That whole issue brought to light the real issue of this time—the time was when the choice had to be made by the Kings of Israel and Judah of course—are we going to have quiet faith in God Almighty, Yehovah, the God of the Old Testament? Are we going to have quiet faith in Him or are we going to somehow try to form desperate human alliances to fight off these aggressors? The Assyrians, in this case, being the prime aggressor at that point in time. Now of course, all those human alliances ultimately failed; every single one of them and they were condemned by God Almighty.

What King Ahaz did was formed this alliance with Assyria and the Northern Ten Tribes. He put his faith in a human alliance and we know in doing so, if you put your faith in a human alliance, you are implicitly rejecting Yehovah. That is exactly what King Ahaz did and it resulted in horrible consequences, as we know.

Now the Talmud, the Jewish writing of their Oral Law and their tradition, said that Isaiah ended his life by being sawn in two with a wooden saw by King Manasseh. The reason King Manasseh did so, was because Isaiah claimed he saw Yehovah (In Chapter 6). He said he did. Remember it was a vision—he saw God Almighty in a vision and that was the excuse Manasseh used to kill Isaiah. At that time, the Talmud says he was 92 years old. It reminds me—we won't turn there, but I think you remember in Hebrews Chapter 11, the author of Hebrews said they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted with the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins and the whole world was not worthy of them. They all died. The point about being sawn asunder was probably a reference to Isaiah.

The Book of Isaiah was written, not only for the coming centuries for Judah, but it was also written for us as well. It is dual—Isaiah is dual in the sense it addresses conditions during Isaiah's day, but, as we are going to see, it also addresses the Day of the LORD, Yehovah, and also the coming Millennium.

So now that we have seen a little bit of the background of Isaiah, the Second thing we want to do is to look at what Isaiah had to say about the Millennium.

I have gone through all of Isaiah's writings about the Millennium and reading from different translations, I pulled out all those writings that applied to the Millennium. Then I looked at them and, as it is the way my mind works, I had to categorize things. I have to put them into groups and they seem to fall into several categories. Today we will look at those in seven points to see what we can learn about the Millennium from Isaiah's writings.

1. Our Father is going to be directly involved in the Millennium.

He is not going to be off on a cloud somewhere or in some remote part of His creation. He is going to be directly involved in the Millennium. Let's go to Isaiah 2:1 out of the King James, at least verse 1 will be.

Isaiah 2:1 *The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. (KJV)*

Verse 2 is out of the New Living Translation.

2) In the last days, [that is us—that is this time] the mountain of the LORD's house will be the highest of all—the most important place on earth. It will be raised above the other hills, and people from all over the world will stream there to worship. (NLT)

Now this is clearly Millennial. This is not about Ancient Judah at all. It is clearly Millennial.

3) Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. (NLT)

He will have a temple and we will want to go up there and worship this God of Jacob. Now Acts 3:13—we won't get into that right now, but it clearly tells us that the God of Jacob was the Father, Yehovah, God Almighty, no question about it.

Going on in Verse 3.

3) He [God the Father] will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths. [He teaches us so we can do it, we can live that life.] The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (NLT)

It tells us our Father is directly involved. He is going to be in Jerusalem.

4) The LORD will mediate between nations and will settle international disputes. (NLT)

That means He will be directly involved and as a result of Yehovah's mediation—going on in the verse.

4 continued) They will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer fight against nation, nor train for war anymore. (NLT)

You see, back when I first came into the church, somehow a switch would get thrown and people just would not want to do that anymore. Well, that is not the way it works. God Almighty is going to mediate and say,

"Look if you want to do this, you two guys want to fight, alright, here are the consequences and you better think about it because you don't want to face these consequences".

There is a time of teaching, a time of education, a time of mediation and God Almighty is going to be doing that. He is going to be leading the way.

Now let's go to Isaiah 24:23. Again out of the New Living Translation.

Isaiah 24:23 *Then the glory of the moon will wane, and the brightness of the*

sun will fade, for the LORD of Heaven's Armies will rule on Mount Zion. He will rule in great glory in Jerusalem, in the sight of all the leaders of his people. (NLT)

It's pretty plain that He is going to be involved and that He is going to be in Jerusalem. He is going to be accessible and He is going to be visible. And our Father is going to be directly involved in governing during His Millennial rule. This is what Isaiah tells us.

Now that leads to the Second Point:

2. God the Father, Yehovah, will renew the earth.

We know that the earth is going to be very needful of renewing because of the Day of Lord and the various destructions that are going to take place all over the earth.

Now let's go to Isaiah 35:1 and notice what Isaiah tells us.

Isaiah 35:1 *The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.*

2) It shall blossom abundantly. (KJV)

Now notice the latter part of verse 6.

6) ... for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

7) And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: (KJV)

Now this could only happen with divine intervention. This isn't just somehow going to magically appear and magically happen. God Almighty has to make it happen. Now obviously Christ is right by His side and they are working together in complete unity and harmony. The Father is saying to His Son, "I want you to go do this" or His Son suggesting to the Father, "Maybe we should do this". They work together, the Father always has, obviously being supreme.

Now let's go to Isaiah 41 just a few chapters down the road. Here Yehovah Himself, God Almighty is speaking.

Isaiah 41:17 *When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst ... (KJV)*

This is obviously referring to after the mass destruction during the Day of the Lord and people are in dire, dire straits at that moment in time.

17 continued) ... I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

18) I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

19) I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the shittah tree, and the myrtle, and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the fir tree, and the pine, and the box tree

together: (KJV)

The earth is going to be renewed and Yehovah says “I am the One who is going to do it. We just read it.

20) That they may see, [Here’s one of the purposes for it] and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it. (KJV)

So, all humanity is going to see a graphic demonstration of our Father's love and of His power. This will occur all over the world and people are going to start to recognize who He is and how much power He actually has.

Now let’s go to Isaiah 55:12 out of the New Living Translation. Again, the Father is renewing the earth. Notice this promise

Isaiah 55:12 *You will live in joy and peace. [How does that happen?] The mountains and hills will burst into song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands! (NLT)*

We sing that in one of our hymns and the fact is that this is a metaphor obviously, that the earth is going to be a happy place.

13) Where once there were thorns, cypress trees will grow. Where nettles grew, myrtles will sprout up. These events will bring great honor to the LORD’s name; they will be an everlasting sign of his power and love.” (NLT)

By renewing the earth, that was devastated by the events that occurred when mankind rebelled against Yehovah, we are going to see that He is going to renew the earth as a demonstration of His love and a demonstration of His power. It will start, if you read other scriptures, in the Middle East, in Judah and Jerusalem and Israel and then spread throughout the entire earth. This leads us to the next point.

3. Humanity is going to prosper during the Millennium.

Let’s go to Isaiah 25:6.

Isaiah 25:6 *And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined. (KJV)*

Sounds like good times and for people who like to eat or have a glass of wine, it is going to be their day. People are going to prosper in the Millennium. They will not have to worry nor be afraid that somebody is going to take it away from them.

Isaiah 61:4 *And they shall build the old wastes, [which were destroyed during the Day of the Lord.] they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. (KJV)*

“Strangers” meaning *Gentiles* to the Jews because remember it is addressed to the Jews.

5) And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien [meaning the Gentiles] shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. (KJV)

There will be great prosperity starting in the Middle East and then spreading out. Now Isaiah 65:21.

Isaiah 65:21: *And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. (KJV)*

The latter part of verse 22.

22) ... and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. (KJV)

Meaning it is not going to disappear if the Stock Market goes down or something like that. They will long enjoy the work of their hands. We can see how, through these and many other scriptures, all of this is going to happen at the direction of God Almighty and that of His Son. It will happen to Jerusalem first, Judah first, Israel first, and then spread throughout the world.

Now the fourth point that we glean from Isaiah.

4. Humans are going to live a long time during the Millennium.

Now the Worldwide Church of God previously taught and I also previously taught that Isaiah 65:20 tells us that the child is 100 years old—remember those scriptures? We always read them on the Last Great Day saying that the Last Great Day is going to be a time period of 100 years. That is what we did in Worldwide. We did not have computers back then, but we cut that scripture, verse 20, out of Isaiah 65 and pasted it into the Last Great Day. Now we are going to see today that Isaiah 65 is Millennial. It is not Last Great Day, it is Millennial. It only took me 50 years to come to that realization, the fast learner that I am. I am not criticizing the leaders of the past. I don't mean that at all. They were doing the best that they understood and the best that had been revealed to them and I taught the same thing for decades. So, before we get to Isaiah 65:20, let's look at the context. It is always good to look at the context of Isaiah 65 and it is Millennial. Notice the context.

Isaiah 65:13 *Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye [referring to those who forsake Yehovah, in Verse 11] shall be hungry: behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty: behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be ashamed: (KJV)*

Notice all of the “shalls”. This is future.

14) Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall howl for vexation of spirit.

15) And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord GOD

shall slay thee, and call his servants by another name: (KJV)

It is all future. Now go to Revelation 3:12. We are going to come right back, but He says, at this time, what Isaiah is referring to, God's servants are going to be called by another name. This is Christ's letter to the Church at Philadelphia.

Revelation 3:12 *Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, [This has to be Millennial; it can't be any other time] which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. (KJV)*

Now let's go back to Isaiah 65. You see here is another proof that the Bible is divinely inspired. Here are two references written 750 years apart, in two different languages, in two different cultures, about the same event. That is another little minor proof that this is God's Word.

Isaiah 65:16 *He who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes. (KJV)*

That never happened in Isaiah's lifetime. That never happened in ancient Judah or even ancient Israel's time.

17) *For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.*
18) *But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. (KJV)*

That hasn't happened, ever. And look at Jerusalem today and the controversy and the conflict and the threats and the upheaval and all of that.

19) *And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. (KJV)*

The context here of Isaiah 65 is clearly Millennial. You cannot get around that at all.

20) *There shall be no more thence [in the Millennium] an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. (KJV)*

We used to apply this to the Last Great Day saying there was a time limit. The sinner is going to live to be 100 years and he is accursed, and the child is going to live 100 years and we took that and pasted it into the 8th Day. But look at what we have just read. The context is Millennial.

Verse 16 – troubles are just forgotten.

Verse 17 – new heavens and new earth.

Verse 19 – no more weeping or crying.

Now with that in mind, let me read Verse 20 from the NIV because it gives the sense of the verse.

20) Never again will there be in it [referring to the Millennium, the context] an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years: the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. (NIV)

That is the sense of the verse. It fits perfectly in with the context. Verse 22—notice we are carrying on now in the context.

22) They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. (NIV)

So, this clearly tells us that in the Millennium, humans are going to have a long lifespan as some trees and there are trees that are over a thousand years old. Something to ponder — something to think about. These verses show that those who live in the Millennium are going to live a long and blessed life. In part, because there is not going to be any wars; there are no famines; there is no disease—the world will be renewed. We will have clean air, clean water, unpolluted earth and fertile ground to grow crops in and so on and so forth. So, with that being understood, it leads to the next point.

What does Isaiah say next?

5. Resurrections are going to occur in the Millennium.

Pacific has taught that for the last couple of years and again we all thought that resurrections were all going to occur on the 8th day in the 100-year period of time. But when you read what Isaiah and some other prophets say, that is certainly not the context. It falls into the context of the Millennium. We have seen that the context of much of Isaiah is Millennial. So, let's go to Isaiah 25:7; we are setting the stage here for the potential for resurrections.

Isaiah 25:7 And he [referring to Yehovah, God Almighty] will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail [referring to a vail of blindness] that is spread over all nations. (KJV)

We see here the removing of spiritual blindness from all people and the offering of conversion. We know it is helped by Satan being locked up, by his absence. We see here that there is going to be a vail removed and a covering removed over the people.

8) He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people [referring to ancient Israel, Judah and the Northern Ten tribes] shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it. (KJV)

Now this sets the stage for resurrections. Let's go to Isaiah 26 and see what Isaiah says. It is very plain actually. The context is millennial.

Isaiah 26:19 *Thy dead men shall live, [well that means a resurrection] together with my dead body shall they arise. [he knew a resurrection was coming] Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: [metaphorically, you who are already dead awake and sing because you are going to be resurrected] for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. (KJV)*

Now this is the context of the Millennium. We all know the prophecy in Ezekiel. We are going to digress a little bit from Isaiah just to cover this one point. But we know the prophecy in Ezekiel 37—the prophecy of the dry bones—we have read that so many times and covered it on the Last Great Day for years and years and years. But it gives more details about the resurrection. As I said, the Worldwide Church cut Ezekiel 37—the dry bones chapter—out of the Millennial context and pasted it to the Last Great Day. And again, that is not to criticize previous leaders, I taught that error for decades and yet you look at the context and it is clearly Millennial. But we just blew right past it. Well, this is what we were taught and you didn't give it a second thought. You just kept right on going. The context of Ezekiel 37 is clearly Millennial, so we will take a little bit of time to prove that. Let's go to Ezekiel 36, the Chapter before and see what we learn from Ezekiel 36. Then we will see how Ezekiel 37 fits in.

Ezekiel 36:10 *And I will multiply upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, [Notice this—now if this isn't Millennial, I don't know what is] and the wastes shall be builded: (KJV)*

We know that is going to be happening at the beginning of the Millennium because of the destruction of the Day of the Lord.

11) And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings: [Now how can this happen without a resurrection? You have to have a resurrection for them to go back to their old estates and their old habitations] and ye shall know that I am the LORD. (KJV)

Just what we learned from Isaiah.

“I am going to renew the earth because you are going to know Who I am. I am going to teach you Who I am.”

Continuing in verse 24) For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. (KJV)

That is Millennial. It is at the beginning of the Millennium. So those Israelites living through the Great Tribulation will be brought back to the Promised Land. We have taught that for decades in the Churches of God.

25) *Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: [Somehow, they will be cleaned from their sins] from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.*

26) *A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.*

27) *And I will put my spirit within you, [Now this is the Chapter before the Ezekiel Chapter 37 resurrections] and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them. (KJV)*

All of this is Millennial we're told here. So, all of the Israelites will be brought back through resurrection or living through the Millennium and will be given the opportunity to be converted and of course, if they yield, to obtain salvation.

33) *Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.*

34) *And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.*

35) *And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited. (KJV)*

If this isn't a Millennial setting, I don't know what is. This is the Chapter before the Ezekiel 37 resurrections. Obviously, this has not happened yet, has it? So, the context leading to Ezekiel 37 is Millennial. Then the next Chapter, of course, is "the dry bones" Chapter—Ezekiel 37. Then in Chapter 38, is a Chapter dealing with Gog and Magog at the end of the Millennium and also includes the first 22 verses of Chapter 39. We will cover this on the 8th Day. But the fact is, the context of Ezekiel 36, Ezekiel 37, Ezekiel 38, and the beginning of Ezekiel 39, are all Millennial.

Now just look, at Chapter 39 as an example. There is a summary beginning in verse 23—this is after Gog and Magog.

Ezekiel 39:23 *And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: [This goes back into the 700's BC] because they trespassed against me, [The whole world is going to know this in the Millennium] therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword.*

24) *According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and hid my face from them. (KJV)*

Israel was taken captive in 721 BC by the Assyrians and Judah in 585 BC by the Babylonians. Verse 25 is out of the New Living Translation.

25) *"So now, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I will end the captivity of my people; I will have mercy on all Israel, for I jealously guard my holy reputation! (NLT)*

Now how can the captives of 2500 years before this in the Babylonian captivity and the Assyrian captivity—how can they be brought back to life unless it is through a resurrection to physical life? Again, all in a Millennial context. Verse 26, from the King James version.

26) After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid. (KJV)

Hasn't happened yet

27) When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, [Again, Millennial] and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; (KJV)

All of this is Millennial.

28) Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. (KJV)

There again, just every verse is Millennial in context. We are digressing to Ezekiel now from Isaiah, but the fact is, the Ezekiel resurrections, if you look at the context and what the Bible clearly says, it occurs during the Millennium and these resurrections can happen in one of two ways. By that I mean people can come back to their land in one of two ways. Either, at the beginning of the Millennium by surviving and living over into the Millennium or by a physical resurrection during the Millennium. All of those who died in captivity and now they come back into this 1000-year period of a refurbished, a rebuilt earth and they don't have to be afraid because Satan is locked up.

29) Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD. (KJV)

This is after Israel is resurrected. This is after the dry bones. This is after Ezekiel 37. So putting these scriptures together in Isaiah and our digression into Ezekiel, all have a Millennial setting, a Millennial context. So, therefore, it is safe to assume and I think it is fairly plain, that the resurrection of Israel occurs during the Millennium. Sometime—the beginning, the end—does it begin in stages? We are not told. We don't know.

In the Point 6

6. The Father tells us through Isaiah that He is going to comfort human beings during this time and He is going to cause them to dwell in safety.

What a concept. As has been mentioned, how uncertain can the times be that we live in today? How uncertain? They are talking nuclear war and we have had pandemics and nation against nation and you walk out your front door and you can be shot down by someone. It is just the way the world is and the sixth point here is this:

The Father is going to comfort people who have been through horrible times and cause everyone, resurrected or people who live into the Millennium, cause them to dwell in safety.

We have to remember that most of the people who are resurrected, died horrible deaths. Look at all of the wars that have happened down through history and the billions of people who have been killed in wars. That is their last memory—war. They are coming up and one of the things they really would value is to live in safety and to live in peace and be comforted by somebody who does give “a hoot” about them.

Let’s go to Isaiah 30:19—a Millennial context.

Isaiah 30:19 *For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: thou shalt weep no more: he [Referring to Yehovah, God Almighty] will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee (KJV).*

Unlike what happened in their previous lives. Now look at Isaiah 49:10. The wonderful thing about it is, if we are faithful, we will be part of this comforting process. We will be there to help comfort shell-shocked people living over into the start of the Millennium, or people who are resurrected but were shell-shocked at the time they died.

Isaiah 49:10 *They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: [The land is going to be kind to them. The land is going to be good to them.] for he [Yehovah] that hath mercy on them shall lead them, [Yehovah is going to take a leadership role in the Millennium as we have seen before] even by the springs of water shall he guide them. (KJV)*

It is a personal involvement by the Father. Now in Verse 11, Yehovah Himself speaks.

*11) And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted.
12) Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim. (KJV)*

“Land of Sinim”—I did a little research on that and nobody agrees what that is. Nobody knows. It is just a land far away is the best description.

13) Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the LORD hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted. (KJV)

What a concept. Now in Chapter 51:12 we are breaking into where God Almighty Himself is speaking. Isaiah saw Yehovah in a vision and he heard Him and he wrote down everything Yehovah told him to write down.

Isaiah 51:12 *I, even I, am he that comforteth you: [God Almighty says] who art thou, that thou shouldst be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man*

which shall be made as grass; (KJV)

And God is saying to us:

“Why are you worrying about other men and what they do to you? I can blow them away – I can turn them into grass immediately. I can make them the dust of the earth immediately. Why don't you put your trust in Me instead of trust in other men like King Ahaz did and these alliances that he had?”

God is also saying,

“Compared to Me Who protects you, the Almighty—*the One Who has always been, the One Who always will be and the One Who is now*—compared to Me, what is a man to put your trust in?”

Now let's go to Chapter 65:21. We just read that He is the One Who is going to comfort us. He is our ultimate comfort. He is our ultimate rescuer. We were there earlier ...

Isaiah 65:21 *And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. (KJV)*

But notice

22) They shall not build, and another inhabit; [So long life and our Father is going to make sure that thieves don't prosper and thieves don't get away with things and thieves don't steal because they are going to be stopped short.] they shall not plant, and another eat:

23) They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; (KJV)

Verse 25.

25) The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD. (KJV)

So, we can see here that the Father makes everyone feel safe. Everyone has a good night's sleep. Everyone is not looking over their shoulder. Everyone is not waiting for the other shoe to drop or for some evil to happen because it has happened before, and if we wait long enough; it is going to happen again. That will not happen in this time.

What a time it will be. We are so used to being a little on edge about what is going to happen tomorrow? It is going to be bad—it is going to be worse than it was today and if this happened today, how bad is it going to be tomorrow? Well, all of that goes away. All of that is washed away.

What we have just read is the opposite of what happened to ancient Israel when they sinned and turned to adultery time after time. Here now for those same people who have been resurrected, the Israelites who live through into the Millennium, Yehovah will provide

comfort and He will provide long-lasting safety during this time.

Now the seventh and last point.

7. Isaiah seems to say, to me anyway, that salvation will be available to all during the Millennium.

Let's go to Isaiah 35:3. We are setting up the time of the *Day of the Lord* here.

Isaiah 35:3 *Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. (KJV)*

Of course, those living over into the Millennium will have feeble knees and those resurrected during the Millennium who came out of horrible circumstances, will have feeble knees, weak hands ...

4) Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance ... (KJV)

This is referring obviously to the Day of The Lord....

4 continued) ... even God with a recompense; (KJV)

So, we know the Day of Yehovah—The Day of the Lord is His payback time for those who rebel against Him. We understand that. But notice what happens then, after that, going on in Verse 4....

4 continued) then he will come and save you.

5) Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. (KJV)

Now, I have heard this in the past, saying “Ok God is going to heal the blind and heal the deaf” but the implication is far more than that—and deafness He is offering them conversion. Now look at Isaiah 51:12—we were here earlier but we will carry on with the context.

Isaiah 51:12 *I, [Yehovah speaks] even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass;*

13) And forgettest the LORD thy maker, [You are going to do that?] that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; and hast feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he [meaning the oppressor] were ready to destroy? and where is the fury of the oppressor? (KJV)

Now in the Millennium He is saying, “Where is this fury—where has it gone? I am in control and that is not going to happen”.

14) The captive exile hasteneth that he may be loosed, and that he should not

die in the pit, nor that his bread should fail.

15) But I am the LORD thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts is his name. (KJV)

For verse 16 in the New Living Translation.

16) I have put my words in your mouth. (NLT)

Now how does that happen? Well, it happens through the Holy Spirit, doesn't it? It happens through the Father and the Son making their abode in us and opening up our minds to comprehend our Father's Word. It gives us the power and the spiritual intellect to comprehend the Word and then to speak God's Word and then to turn those words into deeds and then into how we behave.

16 continued) I will put my words in your mouth [coming through the Holy Spirit] And hidden you safely in my hand – I stretched out the sky like a canopy and laid the foundations of the earth. I am the one who says to Israel “You are my people”. (NLT)

And ancient Israel, all the Ten Tribes, Judah, they were all God's people and those who of us were Gentiles. My background is a Heinz 57—mongrel—as most of us are these days. As we are going to see, we are spiritual Israel. We have been grafted in once we were baptized, into Israel. So, this must be future, because ancient Judah and ancient Israel rejected Yehovah, didn't they? They never fulfilled these verses that we just read. So, this implies a time of conversion when people's hearts and minds are changed to have their Father's Word in their mouths. This had not happened.

Now Isaiah 64:4 This is something that we reflect on during these times, because, as humans we have such a limited capacity to understand spiritual matters. We view everything through the lens of being human and that colors everything that we do and it hinders us in that regard, and that is what this verse says.

Isaiah 64:4 *For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he [Referring to Yehovah, God Almighty] hath prepared for him that waiteth for him. (KJV)*

Ancient Israel was never promised salvation. We understand that. They were promised peace and prosperity and safety and freedom from oppression, from their war-like neighbors. They were promised that. They were never promised salvation but even they rejected that. They wanted to be like their neighbors. They wanted to worship the same god as their neighbors. They wanted to intermarry with their neighbors and be more like other people. We see that happening all over the world today. Kind of homogenizing everything into a giant mush. And so ancient Israel was just never promised salvation.

But Isaiah 64:4 hints of something far better. It hints of something greater than this physical life because we are told here that your ears can't even hear—your ears can't even process—your eyes can't see “what I have in store for you”. You can't comprehend what sitting at my

spiritual throne would be like. We can't comprehend that. We can read the Sea of Glass and we can read the Cherubim and God and Christ are in between and Christ is on His right Hand and we can kind of vaguely think about angels going about to and fro. All of that and the 24 Elders somewhere they are there. We all do it in a physical context of what it is like for us physically. We are told here, your eyes, your ears because we are so limited, can't even think about this. God knows that, of course. It should give us strength and faith and to know that whatever we think is good in this life is nothing compared to what is good in the spirit world and a spiritual life that we are promised.

So the fact is, that during the Millennium, the way I read the Bible, is that there is conversion offered to all of those who come into the Millennium—they survive the Great Tribulation but also through the resurrections, they come to life during the Millennium. They have all of their baggage, all their fears and worries and maybe dying a violent death. They have all of that and bring it into life during the Millennium. They carry it with them and our Father says:

“Look, this a new ball game. This is a new time. You are now resurrected or you lived through to this time. You are going to have a long life. You are not going to have to worry about people invading you and conquering you. You are not going to have to worry about diseases and pestilences. You are not going to have to worry about your government persecuting you or lying to you. You're not going to have to worry about bureaucrats trying to steal from you or government officials trying to swindle you and deceive you. I am here and this is my rule and this is the ball game—the Ten Commandments—the Two Great Commandments—I have just renewed the entire earth so you had better just look with your eyes and see what I have done. Maybe you ought to start believing what I am going to tell you and what I am telling you and what my servants tell you.”

So we see here, there is then the opportunity for salvation for all mankind.

Let's conclude now.

Isaiah was a dedicated Prophet of God and when you read Isaiah in detail, he was a remarkable man who just humbly served God to the very end and sadly, he died a horrible death. Hopefully it didn't last too long, but *through much tribulation, we enter the Kingdom of God*. That is a fact. *Through much tribulation we enter the Kingdom of God*. But Isaiah prophesied to the future of Judah and Israel, about what was going to happen to them when they would be coming back to their land at some point in a few hundred years. Coming back to their land but then also coming back and being resurrected a couple of thousand years later—over twenty-five hundred years later. It also applies, you see, to us because we are spiritual Israel. That is a sermon in itself. We are spiritual Israel.

So today, we have seen some of what Isaiah says about the Millennium. Our Father is going to be directly involved in the Millennium —we can count on that. He is going to renew the earth—we can count on that. Humanity is going to prosper during the Millennium and humanity will live long lives during the Millennium. Resurrections are going to occur during the Millennium and the Father is going to comfort all of those, all humans in the Millennium and cause them to dwell in safety at last. Salvation will be available to all.

Let's close with an encouraging scripture from Isaiah. Let's go back to Chapter 64:4.

I was just going to read that again, and then one other verse.

Isaiah 64:4 *For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he [Yehovah] hath prepared for him that waiteth for him. (KJV)*

As I've said we cannot fully comprehend all this, but the point is, we wait for Yehovah. We do, and this is something we are going to have to do. As bad as it gets out there, we will wait. Ancient Israel has waited. They have been in their graves waiting for twenty-five hundred years. We wait in this physical life because we know what is coming. What is coming is a wonderful, wonderful time. We wait for Yehovah, because his name Isaiah means "He is our salvation". He is our only hope. He is our salvation. Now notice Verse 5 out of the New Living Translation.

5) You welcome those who gladly do good. Who follow Godly ways. (NLT)

God welcomes those who gladly do good and who follow Godly ways. So, as we start the Feast and continue on during the Feast, let's all of us, while we are here gladly do good and follow in our Father's ways.