

**CALVARY PANDAN
BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

DHW BIBLE CLASS

LESSON 60

ISAIAH

CHAPTER 60

Theme: "The Glorious Blessing of a Godly Testimony!"

THEME VERSES

Isaiah 60:14, 19 (KJV) "The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel. **19.** The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory."

INTRODUCTION

How magnificent is a godly witness to a world that is dying in sin and steeped into spiritual depravity from the youngest to the oldest and from every quarter of society? Isaiah 60 reveals the greatness and goodness of the blessings that accompany a godly witness. Not only will the great name of Christ be praised and exalted but the lives of sinners transformed into saints and the

joy and sincere exaltation they have for God is beyond our wildest dream. The people from all over the world would flock to Jerusalem and call it the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel. Jerusalem that was once hated by the world as the pimple on every one's face that ought to be excised immediately but now has become their home and the centre of their heart's devotion and cry. It is the city where the LORD had placed His home, the Tabernacle amongst men.

Presently, Jerusalem is the source of the world's problem that many nations all over the world would love to see destroyed. It is hated by millions for no apparent reason except that to every knowledgeable believer, it is a spiritual battle that will exist until the return of Christ! Jerusalem is hated because Satan hates Christ. Jerusalem is the city of God and Satan hates the testimony of God on this earth. Jerusalem was the place where the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified. It was the place that Christ was arrested and Pilate sentenced Christ to die on the cross. It is the centre of God's plan of salvation for mankind.

One day, Jerusalem will be the only "thing" from this old earth that will remain in the New Earth and New Heaven after this present old earth and heaven are destroyed by God permanently after the millennium (cf. Revelations 21). This beloved city of God does not in any way come close to resembling what God had intended Jerusalem to become one day because the people of Israel have rejected Christ today. But one day,

they will become the people of God once more as believers of Christ. Isaiah is not reflecting the present 21st Century Jerusalem but the Jerusalem of the New Heaven and New Earth as described in Revelation 21. This is the eternal New Jerusalem, which will be even more magnificent than the New Jerusalem of the millennium where Christ would reign for 1,000 years on this present earth.

Isaiah 60 gives hope to all believers but especially to all Israelites who love the Lord today. They would be greatly encouraged that the LORD will never forsake His own and will be victorious and glorious even in the city of the LORD that will become the capital city of all believers throughout the ages and for all eternity.

OUTLINE

1. Jerusalem: the beloved centre of the world (vv.1-10);
2. Jerusalem: the centre of righteous judgement (vv. 11-17);
3. Jerusalem: the centre of all praises (vv. 18-22);

COMMENTARY

An OUTLINE

Jerusalem: the beloved centre of the world – 60:1-10

The capital city is important to God. Capital cities are meant to be the seat of power where the leader of every country dwells. It is his headquarters where the lifeline of the nation begins. It is the city where the

hopes and future of every nation resides. Power is synonymous with capital city. It is the source of all economic decisions for the well-being or failures of the society. This is also true of the LORD. It is the centre of the whole earth. The capital city of God's Kingdom is Jerusalem. Jerusalem is called the city of God (cf. Psalm 46:4; 87:3). When Jerusalem is glorious, it means that the kingdom is glorious. The nation and her capital cannot be separated. The capital is also used commonly to refer to the nation. Isaiah begins by praising Jerusalem for her light and the glory of the LORD that has risen upon her. This is a spiritual glory that the Bible speaks of. It has everything to do with salvation in Jesus Christ.

The contrast is clear between the world in spiritual darkness and Jerusalem being the only city with the glorious light of Christ. God reveals to Israel the impact Jerusalem will have upon the whole world where Gentiles will come to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. These would include kings from all over the world. Much of the world would come to Jerusalem and see her as a beloved city to be cherished and loved.

It is the city where the Messiah was crucified. It was the city that God has chosen where the greatest gift of God was given to save mankind from all her sins. Past enemies will become brethren in Christ. They will bring gifts from near and far to Jerusalem, which they will also view as their beloved capital because of Jesus Christ. They come because of Jesus Christ and not

for any carnal reasons. They will all become friends with Israel as they are now brothers and sisters in Christ. The Name of the LORD will mean everything to them just as this Name means everything to Israel.

Jerusalem will be loved by all the world one day.

Jerusalem: the centre of righteous judgement – 60:11-17

There is no city on earth today that can boast of righteous judgement. Every judicial system and constitution of every country is faulty and based upon the whims and fancies of carnal depraved man. It may have some truth and righteousness but in essence, it is fraught with many injustices. Even if there is a judicial system that is perfect and righteous, but when sinful men execute it, he will ruin it and distort it for personal gain. This will not happen in Jerusalem. Jerusalem will issue forth only just judgement for the law is perfect and so is the executer of this perfect law. Righteousness of the LORD will prevail all over the world. There will only be one standard, it is the standard of God according to Holy Scriptures. What is now found in churches only and in the hearts of God's people will become global and the world will be soaked through and through with the very judgement of God. What a wonderful world that would be!

On that day when the world comes from far and wide to their beloved city Jerusalem, the gates of the city will remain wide open all day and all night (this does not mean that there is night and day in the New

Jerusalem of Rev 21). This is a figure of speech to describe complete safety. All other nations that will not love Jerusalem will perish from the face of the earth. Jerusalem the righteous city will be the only city standing. Nations will come and help beautify Jerusalem. Any nation or city that despises Jerusalem will come before her and bow in submission and shall call her "the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel". The word "Zion" means "a guiding pillar". It is something like a landmark. In this context, it is the landmark of the Holy One of Israel. The power and might of God is signified here.

Jerusalem has been hated and forsaken throughout her existence. The world despises Jerusalem and chooses to avoid her as much as possible. But there will come a day when the LORD will make her a city of eternal excellence and a joy to many generations. This has happened in the hearts of genuine believers all over the Gentile world. One day, this will be manifested for the whole world to see by Jesus Christ Himself. Gentile nations will come and nourish Jerusalem as they showered upon her their wealth. They would do so with love and joy. Israel will then know that the LORD Jesus Christ is indeed the Saviour and Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob i.e. rebellious Israel.

The church has taken over the witness of Israel today. The church can become such a great witness that Jerusalem will be one day. Churches like CPBPC must not fail the LORD. This is what every believer's testimony

ought to be every day of their lives on this earth. It is the glorious light of Christ that must shine forth in order for the world to come to Christ. Israel failed the LORD but we must not follow in Israel's failed footsteps.

**Jerusalem: the centre of all praises
- 60:18-22**

There will be no more violence in the land of Israel. There will be no more wasting i.e. abuse and criminal acts or destruction. Jerusalem will be called a city covered with salvation and praise. The people of God will dwell there in peace and harmony. The sun will no longer be needed to shine forth her light. Neither will there be a need for the moon. The reason is because the LORD Himself will be the everlasting light. Christ will be Jerusalem's God and glory. This is similar to what is revealed in Revelations 21:23-24.

The people will no longer need to sleep and rest for they would be glorified and filled with strength and not need sleep to refresh themselves. The people will be righteous and they shall inherit the land forever. The LORD will be glorified through the inhabitants who will dwell in Jerusalem. Amen.

**DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS**

Daily Readings

MONDAY: Isaiah 60:1-10

TUESDAY: Isaiah 60:1-17

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 60:1-22

THURSDAY: Isaiah 60:1-22

FRIDAY: Isaiah 60:1-22

Discussion Questions

- 1. Isaiah describes what Jerusalem will be as well as ought to be then in the days of Isaiah. Do you think that the church ought to have the same glorious light witnessing to a world in darkness? Is CPBPC fulfilling this divine purpose? Please give examples.

- 2. Do you feel "strange" that things of this earth can become godly witnesses of God's grace and mercies in Christ? All the things of this earth have been stained by sin. What are some of these things that God can use for this great spiritual purpose?

3. Do you love Jerusalem? Do you have an affinity toward this city that you have never been to and yet there seems to be some kind of a kinship?

4. Is it right to love CPBPC the way you should love the city of God, Jerusalem as described here in Isaiah 60? Please explain.

5. Are you a lover of righteousness? Do you hate sin? Do you want to get rid of sin all the time in your life? Is this a reality or a figment of man's imagination?

6. As you study Isaiah 60, do you long for Jerusalem to become what is described here? What does it mean to your life now as you think of and long for that Jerusalem to become a reality?

7. What lessons have you learnt from this chapter about God's Word and about yourself?
