

Jehovah's Blessings

Text: Isaiah 26:1-10

Date: 8-15-21 @ 10:30 AM

Truth: Once salvation has been attained, God will unleash His immeasurable blessings upon His people. Even now, these blessings in this praise psalm are guaranteed for the believer today.

I. The Blessing of Safety (Isa. 26:1-2).

The city is strong because God is there and He personally makes the walls and security Himself. The walls themselves do not make the fortifications; rather, Jehovah is the perfect protection and salvation for His people.

God is ready for His people to dwell in His city!

These people have a right to enter because they are in right standing with God in matters of justice, law, and truth.

They believe God as the covenant holder and trust Him to act in their best interests. In this place where righteousness and faithfulness dwell, the believing people will trust God and live by faith since they actually now believe in the promises of God.

II. The Blessing of Peace (Isa. 26:3).

In the future the believing remnant will have minds resting in and firm upon God.

The people's confidence will now fully rest in Jehovah as they now realize that while the human heart wavers (James 1), those who have their firm foundation in the Lord will abide in a state of constant and firm peace. God, who is eternal and unchangeable, has clearly become the Rock on which all trust is truly placed and His perfect peace is a place of complete safety, calmness, and trustworthiness.

We must have our faith rooted in Jehovah and trust that His path is the path that leads to fulfillment, joy, and blessedness. Out of that trust and faith, God will reward us with a safety net of complete peace and total well-being even in the midst of calamity

III. The Blessing of Strength (Isa. 26:4).

"If they would escape the judgment, have hope in this life, and the true peace that God alone can give them, they must place all their confidence in God" (Young 208-09).

Peace is not attainable when man trusts in something that changes, in temporal people, and unstable minds. Rather, trust in the Person and ways of Jehovah who is forever.

God is the Lord, the Lord who stands sure and eternal.

The Lord God is the most firm and secure foundation in which all who trusts in Him will find rest.

IV. **The Blessing of Justice (Isa. 26:5-6).**

The proud people are humbled because they do not trust in God.

The poor and needy now are given the opportunity to tread over the proud and wicked people. The helpless will walk over those who thought they needed no help or refused to help the poor.

V. **The Blessing of Righteous Living (Isa. 26:7-9).**

God makes a straight (*uprightness*) and level path for the righteous.

While the path of the wicked is crooked (Prov. 2:15) and filled with obstacles, the path of the righteous is straight and prosperous (Josh. 1:8). This may not be material prosperity but the path is guided by God's word which is a lamp to his feet and light to his path (Ps. 119:105). The Spirit of God guides and protects the righteous man (Psalm 91).

The righteous wait for God's judgments to unfold.

The remnant has a strong ambition to be in the presence of God and to revel in His name. The believing ones crave a continual remembrance of all that God is and what He has done because they know that is where true blessing and exaltation lies.

Those who desire God will find Him to be fully adequate in administering justice.

"When His judgments are withheld and men seem to prosper, they tend to forget God. On the other hand, when times of adversity come and the judgments of God are felt, at that time men do learn God's righteousness" (Young 214).

VI. **The Blessing of Favor (Isa. 26:10).**

God truly benefits the wicked: through common grace like rain, sunshine, and harvest. He gives them the opportunity to come to Him in child-like faith, yet they deny the Creator and live to please themselves.

When the wicked man's life is preserved, God is showing favor in allowing one more day of compassionate opportunity to repent. The postponement of eternal judgment is God's mercy on display. When the judgment comes, God's mercy has run its course. We should utter praise and thanksgiving for His goodness, mercy, and love. We should hate that which God hates and love God with humility. In the end those who abhor God's goodness will not learn righteousness nor receive God's righteousness through His Son.