

# God's Gracious Restoration Plan

Text: Isaiah 62:1-12

Date: 6-4-23 10:30 AM

## I. God's gracious provisions will culminate in a joyous marriage (Isa. 62:1-5).

God will remain actively at work until He brings total and complete salvation to His people. The darkness of the night, including the spiritual darkness of their unbelief and distrust, idolatry, and their insensitivity, as well as the physical darkness of captivity, will be changed into the splendor of her glory.

Contrasted against God's glorious salvation light the darkness of the heathen will be obvious. The Gentiles themselves will now clearly see the difference as they view Jehovah's righteousness.

The result of all of this will be a new name ascribed to Zion. What is this name? It may not be something specific but a reference to the change that will come their way. A name represents a person's character, actions, and life. When God's heavenly kingdom comes to earth, a new name, a new song, new character, and extraordinary change will come upon this city.

In the end, that which the people had trusted in was swept away by God's judgment and now the people recognize the true source of glory and beauty.

God gives new names to Zion and its land.

- Old name: Forsaken - the people had forsaken the Lord and then He had forsaken them (Deut. 28:15; II Chron. 15:2; Isa. 1:4; Isa. 51:19-20), but it would only last a short time (Isa. 54:7). Never again will Jehovah forsake His land because now the land is full of righteousness and under the just reign of its Messiah (vs. 1-2).
- Old name: Desolate - The land will never again be called Desolate, a term meaning *devastation* or *waste*. See Isa. 1:7; 17:9
- New name: Hephzibah - Zion will be called Hephzibah meaning *my delight is in her*.
- New name: Beulah - The land will be called *Beulah* meaning *to be married to someone*.

Today the nation is a forsaken wife but one day in the future Christ will cleanse the nation, restore His people, and be "married" again to the nation.

The people will now live in Jerusalem again and God will rejoice that His original desire will be accomplished. God's gracious provisions will be enacted throughout the land as the people possess their covenant home. The land will no longer be desolate or forsaken but will be filled to the brim with Jehovah's blessings.

## II. God's gracious protection as He provides safety and security for His people (Isa. 62:6-9).

God will graciously provide for the people's protection in the coming kingdom.

The watchmen will not *hold their peace* (not be silent or pictured by an act of prayer) for they will be always on guard warning of any impending danger.

Redeemed Zion and its people will enjoy the presence of God forever. They will serve and worship Him following His laws, covenant, and precepts.

### III. God's gracious promise to deliver Zion (Isa. 62:10-12).

The people are to prepare the way, to build a highway, clear the obstacles, and lift a banner (signal) to the nations. The nations will now enter in triumph and victory for Zion has been exalted above all other nations.

The people are to prepare themselves spiritually, getting rid of those things that displease Jehovah and humble themselves so His presence will be welcomed. See Isa. 11:10; 40:3-5, 9; 49:22.

The banner is raised to announce that deliverance is come and Jehovah's salvation through Jesus Christ's presence is now here. He will come for the people of Jacob and also the nations will flood to Him for He will be a light to the Gentiles (49:6).

God will reward the redeemed and the redeemed are His reward. He will execute perfect justice in rewarding the wicked and remunerate the righteous. God deserves His reward because He has won the great victory over His enemies and delivered man from wickedness and sin.