## 23-Isaiah-29-Transcript

[Music]

[Music]

SO [Music] well greetings brethren and welcome to another wednesday night bible study and i just feel so excited i i think isaiah is my favorite book my favorite scroll in the in the bible it's hard to say it's all the word of god and everybody every book that we study is so exciting but there is something very very special about the book of isaiah and we studied this book can you believe it two years ago so we we began studying isaiah two years ago we paused we did second isaiah chapters 40 to 66 and and we've covered a number of books since then but we did say we would come back to isaiah and i just feel so blessed that uh here we are and and there's a couple of approaches that we can take to this book uh one is what i'll call the more traditional approach as far as christians are concerned and that is it's a very poetic book and so when we have a point that we want to make why not find some poetry in isaiah that we can quote to support our point that's one approach the other approach is to treat this book with incredible reference to realize that this man this prophet isaiah actually came into the presence of god

and was given incredible vision and

understanding

and maybe his vision and understanding far surpasses ours and and therefore we should approach the book with great reverence and instead of using isaiah to support any points that we want to make instead we come humbly to isaiah to learn from him and i think that's why i'm so excited that now as we try to complete god willing our study of this scroll doing now what's considered first isaiah chapters 1 to 39 that we'll be able to put the whole thing together and understand what is it that this prophet was trying to tell us and bearing in mind he's one of the most quoted scrolls in the new testament uh jesus christ himself when he was on earth he quoted the psalms which we're studying he quoted isaiah which we're now studying and he quoted deuteronomy which we have been quoting a lot but god willing in the future maybe we'll tackle deuteronomy line by line as well so let's open with a word of prayer and let's let's let's get into this scroll our heavenly father great god almighty we very very humbly and excitedly uh come before you thank you father for giving us this opportunity and the desire to study this ancient scroll which illuminates and because of your prophetic word enables us to see into our future in this very dark and chaotic world it gives us light so that we can order our steps

properly thank you father and thank you for jesus christ and isaiah has so much to say about him we thank you for him and we thank you for this salvation and this good news this great news this this gospel news we pray that we might understand it clearly and proclaim it boldly thank you father we also are mindful lord of brethren all around the world who are suffering but particularly now our brethren in texas as they are dealing with incredible weather and power outages and terrible uh accidents just lots of things happening their father we pray for your mercy on on your people we praise you lord we ask your blessing upon all your people and upon jerusalem in jesus name amen so brethren we want to get into the study for today and one of the things i want to do as we get started here is i'd like to begin actually not in isaiah but in jeremiah and jeremiah was a prophet who also had a tremendous amount to say and what he says here i'll just uh share my screen he says here uh and the point that i want to make well let me read the verse jeremiah 29 and verse 7 and then i'll make my point and seek the p seek the peace of the city where i have caused you to be carried away captives and pray unto the lord for it for in the peace thereof shall you have peace and i want to call your attention brethren to this

scripture to show you that the prophets were political isaiah is a very very political prophet this is a time of tremendous turmoil in in the middle east at this time and uh the northern tribes have suffered at the hands of assyria and now this is threatening the southern tribes and isaiah has a lot to say as i is very politically aware of what's going on and he has any he speaks directly to the kings and has a lot to say to them and here um isaiah's prophecies have been fulfilled and judah has been carried away captive jeremiah has something to say which is very political which is you you pray for this city you pray for babylon because some of our brethren oh everything's evil everything's evil babylon is evil everything's evil you mustn't have anything to do we should be aware we should see what is going on and this is why i speak so much about america can anybody challenge me on my statement that america is the most powerful nation the world has ever seen in the entirety of human history has there ever been a nation more powerful than america and more benevolent problems notwithstanding challenge me put it in the chat tell me which empire or kingdom was greater than america and also more benevolent so as we watch america collapse i have something to say

i have a lot to say in fact and you can call me political i've never voted in my life i couldn't care less about politics except how it influences the people of god

globally and particularly jerusalem because what is happening in america today will affect jerusalem and god says to abraham i will bless all those who bless you and i will curse those who curse you and all of us who are getting swept up in supporting the collapse of america in supporting marxist movements that are designed to bring down america to divide america and bring it down are accelerating the curse of jerusalem that this new administration has an agenda

to curse jerusalem and certainly not to protect it

and and jerusalem in the midst of her enemies has been able to withstand her enemies because of the support of america so now as we watch america decline and collapse

jerusalem is exposed and many of these prophecies that we're going to read in isaiah and if we quote jeremiah as we go through isaiah

uh there there we will see very clearly and christ himself we will see very clearly

the curses that are coming on jerusalem but woe unto us if we are supporting causes and movements that will cause the cursing of jerusalem

that will cause the cursing of jerusalem because god says

i will curse those who curse you and so warning warning

we do the we do not want to be involved with anything

that has to do with the cursing of jerusalem except to declare it

to declare it but to also declare the good news

that follows it so i just want to show you here brethren

if we were alive in the time of jeremiah we would be saying oh babylon is evil have nothing to do with

it it's we just need to be very clear

have not and jeremiah would be saying

pray for the peace

of babylon because in the peace of babylon

you will have peace and in the peace of america

christian the christian community globally

had peace fund primarily of course there's going to be pockets so no no doubt about that but the judeo-christian ethic

had hegemony globally and now as we watch america

collapse that judeo-christian ethic is disappearing and with it the value of the human being

and so all of you who've been calling and supporting the decline of america i just hope you're ready for what's coming

we're ready we're ready as i said in a sermon previously

sudden death over time it just means the nature of our work changes

prepare for martyrdom as the value of human beings disappears from the planet prepare for matter prepare for martyrdom and prepare

to declare the hope that lies within you so we're going to get into jeremiah oh sorry into isaiah but i wanted to start with jeremiah

just to show that the prophets can in fact be very political because they're very aware of the prophetic word and how it unfolds let's get into now what i think has become my favorite book and i hope yours uh what which is fascinating book the entire bible

is captured in this book and when they found the

the dead sea scrolls one of the scrolls was the scroll of isaiah and it was a thousand years older than the oldest manuscript known at the time and it was almost entirely intact and it matched almost entirely few grammatical mistakes

it matched almost entirely the the scrolls that we had few few copying errors and so isaiah has a profound book and this man had direct contact with god and came into direct um the presence of the glory of god so let's learn from the prophet isaiah the vision of isaiah the son of amaz amos which he saw and notice i've highlighted

here concerning judah and jerusalem in the days of isaiah jotham ahaz and hezekiah kings of judah so if we were to look at the timelines and i probably should have done that is um shown the the the timeline and um i'm just looking on my screen here if i can call up that tool but this is a long time this is this is a long period let me just see if i can quickly do this if we look at isaiah the time of judah and we see hosea elisha scroll down yeah here's isaiah here you're going to see him start

around 740 bc and go all the way

to 680 bc that is quite some that's some 60 years of prophecy 60 to 80 years of prophecy

and you can see the tail end of azaya jotham

ahaz hezekiah and picking up with with manasseh as well

so this is a long long time that he reigned

and and this is why there's a lot of controversy around the book of isaiah that they're trying to say second isaiah was written by somebody else first isaiah because

it's just too long a period and they're trying to discredit the book but as i mentioned and it would be a good idea for you to go back and and study um

second eyes i just refresh your memory on what we covered there together because all of this comes together but when christ was on earth he did not say what have you done with the scroll of isaiah that's corrupted this is what we

he quoted extensively from the whole scroll

so isaiah had a long ministry over multiple kings over some 60 to 80 years

and of course he he saw a lot come and go

and and this is a collection of these visions

but notice the visions are not concerning the whole world although he does speak about all the nations of the world the vision is concerning judah and jerusalem so as we get into this vision and this understanding his understanding of the gospel the good news message that must be proclaimed

let's anchor ourselves in this understanding that it's concerning judah and jerusalem this is not a book about america this is not a book about britain this is not a book about canada china africa japan this is a scroll concerning judah and jerusalem and if we if we do not anchor ourselves in this fact we're going to get twisted in our understanding so let's just anchor ourselves in this this is a scroll a vision of isaiah concerning judah and jerusalem and he received this during these these kings hear o heavens and give

ear o heavens and give
ear o earth wow he's calling the heavens
and the earth in the beginning we know
god created the heavens and the earth
but why would he be calling to witness
the heavens and the earth hear o heavens
and give ear

o earth for the lord has spoken what has the lord said so god has spoken but what has he said i have nourished and brought up children and they have rebelled against me

you can hear the pain in this statement you can hear the love and the cherishing of these children

to have them grow up and mature and then rebel against you

so this this is how the vision this this wonderful vision of this prophet isaiah this is how it begins that god is calling to witness the heavens and the earth

how he and he's spoken so what does he have to say

this is like out of the out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks so what is in the abundance of god's

heart the fact that he has nourished and brought up children and they've rebelled against him now why

the heavens and the earth well

moses in deuteronomy let's go back to torah i call

heaven and earth to witness against you this day

that you shall soon utterly perish from off the land

where unto you go over jordan to possess it

moses just is calling it hey guys you're going to go into the promised land to possess this promised land you should be set up as a

kingdom of priests a glorious kingdom of priests to bring the whole world world to god but i'm telling you from now

i'm not going over to the promised land with you but i'm telling you from now that you're going to go over and possess this land

and you will utterly perish from off this land there's this covenant that god has with you which involves the land you're going to be taken from the land

you shall utterly pray and he's calling heaven and earth to witness this you shall utterly perish from off the land where until you go over jordan to possess it

you shall not prolong your days upon it but shall be utterly but shall utterly be destroyed

this is the prophet the prophet moses and this is his declaration and he called the heaven and earth to witness and now god is calling heaven and earth to witness

that these children that he nourished and brought up have rebelled against him

so i think we can get a sense of what's coming based on torah he says in verse 3 of isaiah chapter 1 the ox knows his owner and the donkey his master's so this is this is the creator of the universe giving us his assessment of of what is in in top of his mind in the fullness of his heart how he set his heart on these people nourished and brought them up and they rebelled against him and then he's comparing compare and contrast my people to the ox the dumb ox and the dumb donkey actually the doc is not that dumb when compared to israel and judah the ox knows his owner and the donkey his master's crib so they can go and they can wonder and they actually know where to come back home but israel does not know my people do not consider this is amazing these are the these are the this is the tribe or the tribes that have had been handpicked by god and set apart from the rest of mankind set apart as holy and and they don't have any knowledge this is the tribe the kingdom of the potential kingdom of priests that have no knowledge the ox has more knowledge and the donkey has more knowledge than these sacred people but israel doesn't know my people do not consider ah sinful nation are are the people of god wonderful are they holier than thou this is god's assessment of his people sinful nation a people laden with iniquity you know if

you uh if you have a sponge and maybe you leave it in water for a while so that it becomes laden with water when you you pick it up it's just laden it's just full of it these people are full of iniquity this is god's assessment of his people you want to make the argument that these people are somehow special and they're very holy people and we have to be careful what we say about them i just want to quote scripture i want to believe what god says what a sinful nation a people laden with iniquity a seed of evil doers this is this is god's assessment children that are corrupters they have forsaken the lord they have provoked and now we're going to get uh isaiah's favorite moniker for god favorite appellation how he constantly refers to god throughout his scroll the holy one of israel they've provoked the holy one of israel unto anger they've gone away backward and i think this is going to be a very important um thing for us to unpack but this is the creator speaking and he ident as he calls heaven and earth as witness and points out how the iniquity of his people he identifies himself as the holy one of israel that's right the creator of the heavens and the earth the creator of the entire universe condescends and identifies himself with these people but in identifying himself with this people he also contrasts himself from this people

this is a people who are laden with iniquity

this is a sinful nation but he's a part of the nation

so so he has not abandoned the nation he identifies himself with the nation but he identifies himself as the holy one

of the nation and right there we get a glimpse

into the gospel because until this point all i'm hearing is these people are god forsaken

they forsaken god god has every right to forsake them

they do not they do not know him they've turned their back on him they've rebelled against him according to torah they must be

destroyed and yet the creator of the whole universe

condescends and identifies himself as part of the same nation but he's the holy one and right there we

but he's the holy one and right there we have the beginning of the gospel that their salvation now becomes possible

that that how god will maintain his his covenant with abraham when he's dealing with a nation that is completely corrupt we see it right here it's in his own identity

he's the holy one of israel and so for his name's sake

he's going to act in the earth and there are going to be a people

in the end time who understand what god is doing

and who are going to declare this true gospel

and as a result they are going to be hated by all nations for his name's sake because they understand

how he his acting for his name's sake and so he identifies himself as the holy one

of israel but they've provoked the holy one of israel unto anger

they are gone away backwards so it says here that these people know nothing they're they're dumber than an ox they're dumber than a donkey they don't know anything except of course sinfulness that's what they know but the torah says when moses was

educating them he says know therefore this day and consider

god says they don't know and they don't consider but moses taught them to know know therefore this day and consider it in your heart

that the lord he is god

in heaven above and upon the earth beneath

there is none else so god is now calling heaven and earth to witness something that they should have known something that they should have considered

that he's the god in heaven above and upon the earth

there's one god israel rebelled against him

and chased after every other god back to isaiah god is puzzled he's perplexed

he says why should you be stricken anymore

why are you going through this it's like why are you suffering like why should you be stricken anymore you will revolt more and more this is speaking of his people you will revolt more and more

the whole head is sick and the whole

heart faint this is the condition this this is a write-off this is a write-off and yet god is saying nope it's not a write-off i'm the holy one of israel i'm going to make this word i'm going to make my covenant work one way or another and in fact just say one way or another i'm going to make my covenant work there's only one way through the holy one of israel there's no other way because the whole the whole head is sick and the whole heart faint in fact even isaiah this very righteous man even isaiah when he came into the presence of god he declared himself just a write-off that he he's coming into the presence of the holy god and he's a man of unclean lips and yet the holy one of israel took care of his sinfulness even isaiah could not be the one to save israel only the holy one of israel why should you be stricken anymore you will revolt more and more the whole head is sick and the whole heart faint from the soul of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in this nation this this is this is god's god is looking down from heaven he has nourished this nation he has brought up this nation and here's his assessment there's no soundness in it but wounds and bruises and putrifying sores they have not been closed neither bound up neither mollified with

ointment and you can just imagine how nasty that is how disgusting that is you can see the disgusting to look at the smell of it that is just pure disgust and that's what they are and then he says this again this is the vision of isaiah i know we like to apply this to uh america but this is the vision in canada brit this is the vision

of concerning judah and jerusalem and it's very important that we just allow isaiah to instruct us otherwise we start making things up and we start making the scripture mean things that it's not

scripture mean things that it's not saying that the prophet is not saying he's saying your country whose country this is the vision concerning judah and jerusalem and when christ was on earth matthew 23 he cursed jerusalem and he cursed jude of the cities of judah and in matthew 24 the prophecy surrounds and revolves around jerusalem specifically

and the cities of judah in particular and here it is this is this is he was quoting isaiah

your country judah your country is desolate

your cities judah are burned with fire here's your future your land strangers devour it in your

presence you're gonna watch this happen in your

presence

and it is desolate as overthrown by strangers

you you brought this upon yourself desolation and the abomination that makes desolate is going to ensure that

this happens and it's going to happen right under your noses you're going to watch this as you parade up and down thinking you're the holy people you're the chosen people and you're going to watch this back to deuteronomy to show how this is inextricably linked to torah god god doesn't just get angry and freak out and lose his temper and do crazy things like turn the jews into apes and pigs just because he was having a bad day and they got on his wrong side the curse in the guran of turning the jews into apes and pigs where does this come from and and muslims truly believe this that jews are descended from apes and pigs and when they see you know you go to the zoo and you see a monkey in there they believe that they're looking at a descendant of judah because allah was angry one day because they didn't keep the sabbath properly because they were hungry and he was testing them and they needed food for their children and they went fishing and so he turned them into apes and pigs the bible is a self-contained unit from genesis to revelation everything is and so this curse now that's being declared upon judah for their filth corruption and abomination that their cities are burned with fire and that their cities have become desolate and that they will no longer be in the land let's go back to torah deuteronomy 28 the

the chapter of blessings and curses 28-29

deuteronomy 28 and verse 49 we'll just take a sampling from the torah the lord shall bring a nation against you from far

this this is what will happen if you do not keep torah

the lord shall bring a nation against you from far from the end of the earth as swift as the eagle flies a nation whose tongue

you shall not understand so god doesn't just freak out in anger

god is faithful to his word he enters into a covenant

and he never breaks it so he's got a covenant with moses

he's got a covenant with abraham he's got a covenant with noah he's got a covenant with david and he never goes back on any of these

covenants

so that the mighty god the creator of the whole universe confines himself to behave within the limitations of his word it's amazing and yet there's a bit of a contradiction now

because torah says the mosaic covenant says

this is what's going to happen to them if they break covenant if they're disobedient to the covenant so that's clear but at the same time he has another covenant with abraham that says his seed will inherit the earth

and all families of the earth shall be blessed in his seed and he will be the god of abraham isaac and jacob forever and so like how do we reconcile this well we got a glimpse

the holy one of israel he identifies himself as part of the nation but here's the curse the lord shall bring a nation against you from far from the end of the earth as swift as the eagle flies a nation whose tongue you shall not understand a nation of fierce countenance which shall not regard the person of the old nor show favor to the young so there as and christ said when he came not one jot nor tittle will will deviate from his word but he did say when he came that he came to fill to the full his word so all of these curses we sort of have had dress rehearsals dress rehearsals and and they keep intensifying keep intensifying but christ said i came so that his my word can be filled to the full so the abomination that makes desolate that's just around the corner it's going to intensely fulfill all of these prophecies we're going to see the extreme fulfillment of all of these prophecies but everything that we've seen historically is the fate the faithful fulfilling of of god's word that this nation of fierce countenance which shall not regard the person of the old nor show favor to the young and he shall eat the fruit of your cattle and the fruit of your land until you be destroyed he's going to do that right under your noses right in front of your face and you'll be powerless and just think of this nation think of solomon and the power of this nation

that glory that they had through david and solomon

and yet here's the prophecy that cannot be

denied because god's word cannot be denied

which are which also shall not leave you either corn wine or oil or the increase of kine or a cattle

or flocks of your sheep until he has destroyed you

and he shall besiege you in all your gates

until your high-end fenced walls come down wherein you trusted so so you feel very confident today israel would feel very the nation of israel which is the tribe of judah

the southern tribes they would feel very confident in their nuclear capabilities and feel very confident in their relationship with america and they're trusting in these things

trusting in these things
but this is the prophetic word of god
which cannot be broken
and so your high and fenced walls come
down where in you trusted
they're not trusting in god they're
trusting in this military power
throughout all your land and he shall
besiege you in all your gates throughout

which the lord your god has given you so god does not just act

erratically everything that he does is according to his word

back to isaiah 1 verse 8 and the daughter of zion

all your land

is left as a cottage in a vineyard as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers as a besieged city so

think of a harvest and they would put up these huts while they're harvesting

but when the harvest is completely done and they and and they've stripped everything and all that's left is this this this cottage or this hut and there's nothing else this is what the daughter of zion can expect and i think this this phrase daughter of zion you think of sort of the end time the the final descendant of of zion the the descendant. but i think all of this is pointing ultimately to the the end time when it is fully fulfilled but this is about to be fulfilled with with the nation of babylon as assyria took out israel now babylon is about to take out judah and the daughter of zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers as a besieged city and then notice this except the lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant we should have been a sodom and we should have been like unto gomorrah this is quite a statement that god god opens up by saying these people are corrupt this nation is sinful it from the head to the toe uh everything thoroughly corrupt laden with iniquity this is who they are then here isaiah is saying that there the lord allowed us to have a very small remnant and and throughout the history of god's people god's people have always leaned toward corruption sadly god's people have always leaned towards compromise sadly joyfully throughout the history of god's people

there's always been a faithful remnant that that have passed the baton from one generation to the next and isaiah is saying that there there is a faithful remnant and if it were not for this faithful remnant not perfect but faithful if it were not for this faithful remnant well we'd have been like sodom and gomorrah and i think we all think of sodom and gomorrah and the the extreme corruption that was in these two cities and and isaiah's assessment is and we when we studied the book of judges we saw firsthand after these people inherited the promised land instead of removing the nations how they adopted the practices of the nations and became just as corrupt as sodom and gomorrah so he says we should have been as sodom and gomorrah and then hear the hear the declaration hear the word of the lord you rulers of sodom give ear to the law of our god you people of gomorrah this this is how god identifies this is a vision concerning judah and jerusalem the vision concerning judah and jerusalem and god refers to the rulers of judah and ierusalem as the rulers of sodom and the people of gomorrah they are this is like if if you're trying to get a sense of how what is god's assessment of his people

here it is to what purpose

help me understand this to what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me

why are you doing this why are you going through

these rituals are you

trying to fool yourself because you're not fooling me

why are you doing this why are you so corrupt

why have you compromised and deviated from torah

to such an extent and yet you're still going through

the rituals you're still observing the holy days you're still keeping the sabbath and the high days you're bringing your offerings you have this sort of religiosity why are you doing this

why not just go wholesale into evil and just completely

identify yourselves as as worshipers of the devil

why don't you just do that well that would be too painful

that would be too painful one thing we know about human beings

we like to feel good about ourselves so i kind of i want my cake and i want to eat it too

so so i want to eat it but i still want to keep it and so this is how we walk so we are so i want to do everything i want to to fulfill my own

pleasures but then i want to put on religious

robes and beads and stones and and do religious things so that i can convince myself i'm a good person and i don't have to actually look in the mirror and we are no different as people with the holy spirit than

these same people of the nation of israel we still have the same carnal nature and we still want to say play the same carnal games and as we head now into this final chapter in the history of man as we head into these very dark days this dark winter we need to get right we need to be be straightforward we are who we are and like isaiah he just said oh you know i'm a man of unclean lips woe unto me we need to come to god with authenticity to what purpose so we could ask the same to the church church what's the purpose of these religious rituals why are you keeping sabbath why are you coming to services you know what are we doing how can we do one foot in the world and one foot in the church what do we do to what purpose is this to what purpose he asks is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me says the lord i am full of the burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts i delight not in the blood of bollocks or of lambs or of he goes like what are you doing do you think this pleases me so they're going through all these rituals and they bring these animals and they sacrifice them and they say their prayers and do this on the high days and god said like i'm full of this i don't need this you're doing this for me i don't need it when you come to appear before me so three times a year there to appear before god when you come to appear before me who

has required this at your hand to tread my courts bring no more vain oblations

incense is an abomination unto me so their prayers their rituals god says this is an abomination unto me the calling of assemblies i cannot away with

it is iniquity imagine that is it possible that god's looking down from heaven

and as we gather together on the high days god is saying i can't stand it i can't stand the hypocrisy one foot in the world and one foot in the church and calling these assemblies and thinking that you're pleasing me i don't need your money

i don't need you to dress up for me the calling of assemblies i cannot away with it it is iniquity even the solemn meeting which i i think refers to the passover your new moons every month they would celebrate the arrival of the month and your appointed

my soul hates this is a vision concerning judah and jerusalem this is where the whole world should look

feasts

for the light of god and god is saying i hate what you're doing in fact they are

trouble unto me i am weary to bear them and when you spread forth your hands i will hide my eyes from you so even when they're praying and they're spreading forth their hands god is saying i don't want to see it i don't want to hear it yeah when you make many prayers i will not hear your hands listen judah your hands are full of blood that's what

this has come to these are some very corrupt people and they're going through all of this religiosity they're praying they're making offerings they're keeping the high days and they're murdering each other they're stealing they're committing adultery they're committing idolatry they're doing every evil but they're maintaining the religious veneer wash you so this sounds like it's over it sounds like a write-off and yet there's this declaration of hope wash you judah and jerusalem wash you make you clean put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes cease to do evil so it's not a complete write-off god is holding out an olive branch god is saying look we can reconcile here you've rebelled against me but that doesn't have to be the end of the story learn to do well seek judgment we have a lot of even in the church now we have a lot of social justice warriors who are seeking social justice god says to judah and to us by extension seek torah seek the judgments of god which are not going to be popular if you are judging according to torah you're not going to be popular if you find that somehow your judgment agrees with the world that that you know when you turn on cnn you're you're thinking the same thing they're thinking and you're saying the same things they're saying then you're not in line with torah learn to do well

learn to do well seek judgment

god's judgment relieve the oppressed

this this is the sort of this is what this is now this is not social justice this is god's judgment and these people are oppressing god's people they're they're they're using the wickedness of the nations around them to oppress even their own people and god's saying relieve the oppressed judge the fatherless plead for the widow now this is very verse 17 is very important because isaiah says that if it were not for a faithful remnant they'd have been like sodom and gomorrah and god says listen you rulers of sodom and you people of gomorrah and now he begins to outline their evil and how they will not seek judgment they will not relieve the oppressed they will not judge the fatherless and they will not plead for the widow let's go to ezekiel 16 to see the sin of sodom which a lot of us immediately associate with their homosexuality but ezekiel gives us some insight that the sin of sodom goes beyond homosexuality ezekiel 16 and verse 46 and your elder sister this is speaking to judah your elder sister is samaria that's the the northern tribes they were centered around samaria the southern centered around jerusalem your elder sister is samaria she and her daughters that dwell at your left hand and your younger sister that dwells at your right hand is sodom and her daughters yet have you not walked after their ways nor done after their abominations

so so you see how evil samaria is and sodom is but you haven't walked after their ways nor done after their abominations but

as if that were a very little thing you were

corrupted more than they in all your ways

so this is god is speaking to judah you're saying you see how corrupt israel is you see how corrupt sodomists you you weren't like that even though i divorced israel you weren't like that you were worse as i live says the lord sodom your sister has not done she nor her daughters

as you have done you and your daughters wow

have you seen this brethren have you seen god's assessment of judah that that sodom is is righteous compared to judah

behold this was the iniquity of your sister sodom okay now we're going to learn what

what is the iniquity of sodom what is it that sodom did so wrong in god's eyes behold this was the iniquity of your sister sodom pride sin of the devil pride so homosexuality that that that's just a symptom

if we want to get to the root cause what is this what is it that went wrong with sodom

pride fullness of bread so so having this abundance and abundance of idleness was in her this this actually sounds a lot like the western world today lest because of the judeo-christian ethic and the work ethic and the values and and valuing the human being and the freedom of the human being and the

freedom of the human spirit and unlocking that that creativity that resides in the human spirit and as a result of unleashing that creativity generating a level of wealth and prosperity the world has never seen but this fullness of bread and abundance of idleness it turns on itself and people with no purpose no they can't give god praise for this they feel guilty so they want to throw it all away that's where we are now but this is the problem of sodom pride fullness of bread and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy so this is this is like a a social disaster that there's a there's a there's an ethic that should exist based on the iudeo-christian or the torah and they just they just have no regard they become so swelled with human pride that they oppress the poor needy and that's where we're heading now all these people who get swept up in this social justice rhetoric and then actually support politicians with this rhetoric we're going to see an incredible level of that's what marxism does

an incredible level of oppression murderous oppression mass murder there's no value of the human life this is where we're heading but the only way they can have this is by fooling the simple with rhetoric so you know there's rule of law which is the way of israel rule of law where even

the law giver

himself moses is subject to the law the law giver is not above the law and so the law giver is punished by the very the very same law that he declares this is rule of law

and our the western world has for the most part

benefited from this understanding of rule of law

versus the rule of the jungle the rule what i call actually the rule of rhetoric

there's the rule of law and then there's the rule of rhetoric

rhetoric is i stand up before crowds and i say what they want to hear and i spin it with lofty sounding words and i just believe in in all markind and and everyhody should

in all mankind and and everybody should be free and

everybody should be prosperous and and everybody should hold hands together and and at the same time i'm slaughtering human beings like there's no tomorrow and the foolish fall for this rule of rhetoric and rule of rhetoric means what's the rule it's whatever i want it to be i say one thing today i say the exact opposite tomorrow and suddenly all those people who are supporting me i just round them up and slaughter them why because i just feel

because i'm bored because i'm powerful it saddens me

like it

so she was so proud and had no regard for humanity this is the sin of sodom and they were haughty they took after their father the devil

this is the this is the sin of sodom homosexual rape is what you do when you're haughty

this is just a symptom of the problem this was not the problem this was a symptom of the problem here's the problem they were haughty and committed abomination before me therefore i took them away as i saw good that's what happened to them neither has samaria committed half of your sins so judah saw what israel did and instead of thinking wow if the torah happened to them the covenant curses happened to them we better smarten up no they double down in their iniquity neither has samaria committed half of your sins but you have multiplied your abominations more than them and have justified your sisters in all your abominations which you have done so they're just a complete they're laden with iniquity as isaiah says you also which have judged your sisters bear your own shame for your sins that you have committed more abominable than they so so you feel like you're all righteous and you're looking down at the northern tribes but then you're worse than them they are more righteous than you yes be you confused also and bear your shame in that you have justified your sisters so your your level of iniquity actually justifies the level of iniquity of the northern tribes and even of sodom so so isaiah is not joking when he says we should have been a sodom and gomorrah except god left us a faithful remnant now this level of inequity so again i go compare and contrast according to

muhammad and the quran because the jews went fishing

on the sabbath when they were hungry when he withheld food from them all week and they were starving to death and they went fishing on the sabbath because of that

god was so angry with them he turned them into apes and pigs

yet at the same time if muslims are hungry it's okay for them to eat pork compare and contrast that with

the scroll of isaiah which

clearly does not hide it's not like they went fishing on the sabbath because they were hungry because god himself withheld

food from them

and their children were starving to

death it's not that

it's that they were just laden with corruption

they were filled with iniquity

they did everything they could possibly

do to be evil

and what does god say to them does he turn them into apes and pigs

no that we have good news for these people

the these these descendants of abraham who are who are in this covenant relationship with god

we bring you good news your corruption notwithstanding

god says to judah and jerusalem to judah and jerusalem we have to stay in the frame

let's not go off and start making this say what it doesn't say this is the vision concerning judah and jerusalem

he says to judah and jerusalem come now and let us reason together says the lord come now let us reason together we just saw how wicked these people are though your sins be a scarlet your judah and jerusalem though your judah and jerusalem

your sins be a scarlet they shall be as white as snow judah and jerusalem though they be red like crimson they shall be as wool

now fast forward to isaiah 45 we and i would encourage you to go back over the second isaiah just to keep it fresh because it's been two years uh while we're studying first isaiah here but he says israel shall be saved in the lord with

an everlasting salvation this is the good

news
that god will not go back on his

that god will not go back on his covenant to abraham isaac and israel and although he's divorced

the northern tribes of israel he says through jeremiah

that when he returns he's going to make israel and judah

one stick so he maintains the covenant through judah

when he returns he's going to combine israel into judah

and and save and all israel will be saved this is the good news

and through the salvation of israel we set

up the kingdom of priests on the earth that god had imagined in the first place and the physical human beings on the earth

will come to physical human beings on the earth in jerusalem

and and learn to worship god and the first

fruits harvest is going to be beyond the human experience

the first fruit fruits for its harvest will be the teachers the spiritual teachers

that are co-reigning with christ over this

human operation but israel shall be saved in the lord

with an everlasting salvation god is the god of israel forever

you shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end

god has a plan but right now as we start off with isaiah 1 he's speaking specifically

and exclusively to judah and jerusalem but ultimately it's going to be all israel will be saved and through them salvation will be available for the whole earth

verse 19 isaiah 1 if you be willing and obedient

you shall eat the good of the land are you kidding me what is going on here i just thought we just catalogued how evil these people are how corrupt they are it sounds like there's no hope except there was one glimmer of hope that god identified himself in all of this as the holy one of israel that's what gave me a sense that there somehow there must be good news in here and now we're beginning to see that even though these people are so corrupt god has not written them off and he's saying come let's reason together and i'm going to wash you and make you clean and if you be willing and obedient you shall eat the good of the land even though the torah says you shall be

scattered out of the land

back to the land

the torah also says you'll be brought

but if you refuse and rebel you shall be

devoured with the sword you'll be beheaded with the sword that that a sword has been declared upon this nation

and we're going to see as we unpack isaiah

this is a book about the middle east this is a book about judah and jerusalem so we have to pick up a map open a map find out where is jerusalem located

where the cities of judah located and what surrounds them and is there a nation that has that puts the sword on their flag that says we rejoice in beheading jews are there is there a confederation of these kinds of people that happen to surround

judah and jerusalem because that's what this is about

there's a religious beast there's a religious beast a false prophet but there's a political beast and they're not the same and the political beast is referred to in revelation as the seventh beast and the eighth beast and they are different

from the sixth so as we do our counting and figure out what is the sixth beast of revelation because whatever that is that's not what we're looking for now that's gone and these the seventh beast is

totally different from the sixth as the sixth was totally different from the fifth

as the fifth was totally different from the fourth

so whatever we identify as the sixth beast that cannot be the seventh and the eighth

but the eighth can be the seventh the

eighth is a resurrection of the seven but the seventh is totally different from the sixth we need to look on a map see where jerusalem is see where judah is see what surrounds them and how this is going to be fulfilled in the end time this mass beheading but if you refuse and rebel you shall be devoured with the sword for the mouth of the lord has spoken it that's one thing we've established that through studying isaiah that's what we've established that when god speaks that's it that's what abraham understood it's impossible for god to go back on his word god is not the kind of being that makes a covenant and then says yeah but i change my mind no once he covenants that's it and that's what he wants us to learn how is the faithful city become a harlot this is quite the question what is the faithful city where we're talking about toronto is toronto the faithful city this is a vision concerning judah and jerusalem so i think just with a little bit of logic here he must be still be talking about judah and jerusalem and the faithful city must be jerusalem the city of david and now it's become a harlot it was full of judgment righteousness lodged in it but now murderers how did this happen and you know people from all over the world came to jerusalem the queen of sheba went through incredible effort to come to jerusalem because of the fame of jerusalem and the fame of god throughout the earth

but now it's become how did this happen well solomon was part of the reason but but this is what happened righteousness lodged in it but now murderers look at this murderers this is real these people are actually murdering and oppressing your silver has become dross your wine mixed with water your princes are rebellious and companions of thieves thieves everyone loves gifts and follows after rewards and again you look at our modern society and political situation today everyone seems bribable you saw the previous president in america couldn't trust anybody everybody that he had on defense everybody but almost everybody i think maybe i can say everybody but it's almost everybody the closest people to him everybody that he picked turned on him betrayed him he just he's not a politician he didn't understand how this thing works how do you get the loyalty of politicians well you corrupt them you you make them bribable you put them in compromising situations and then you force their hand and they have to agree with you but he just came in saying i'm doing this and he didn't have all of these connections and he bought all these people generals everybody close to him even vice president it doesn't matter everybody turned on him because everybody has their price and that's one thing we see here in the this is politics princes are politicians here they're leaders they have political power

your princes are rebellions rebellious and companions of thieves all of them love gifts and follow after rewards this is how they make their judgments what's going to enrich me oh yeah

let's give multi-billions of dollars to this nation

so that i can get a kickback into my bank account and i at the same time is great

i look like i care for the poor i look like i care for people but i'm enriching myself and my family everyone loves gifts and follows after rewards they judge not the fatherless they talk good rhetoric and fools follow them

but they don't actually do they don't follow through they judge not the fatherless

neither does the cause of the widow come unto them they just don't care they just don't care as it was anciently so it is today

therefore says the lord of hosts and now

he calls himself the mighty one of

the mighty one of israel so after identifying the politicians of the day as utterly corrupt those who have political power

he now after first identifying himself as the holy one of israel he now identifies himself as the might

he now identifies himself as the mighty one of israel

that the creator the god of the universe is a part of this

nation he's the holy one of this nation and now we come to learn he's the mighty one that that that sets up a contrast

you know the holy one of israel sets up a contrast okay they're corrupt totally corrupt he's holy now we see that they're powerful and corrupt

but he's the mighty one of israel that that tells me they're coming down this is the gospel this is what christ said that he's come to lift up the meek and lowly

and to bring down the powerful that's what that's what we're seeing here we're getting a glimpse

therefore says the lord the lord of hosts the mighty one of israel ah i will ease me of my adversaries and avenge me of my enemies like oh yes gentile nations moses identified them in deuteronomy 30

as the enemies of god but we were just talking about within the nation we were just talking about the politicians the political power within the nation

and god on the heels of that identifies himself as the mighty one of israel and immediately says i'm gonna i'm gonna take care of this

i will ease me of my adversaries they're they're they're

they're the opposing force to god's will and i i will avenge me of my enemies this is i i'm just so excited about the book of isaiah this is such an amazing book and it has so much to say

about our day and how we can understand the future this this seemingly chaotic world

it's not so chaotic once we view it through the lens of isaiah so we will uh pause here and uh god willing we will continue next week so we got up to verse 24 isaiah 1.

god willing we will continue next week with the book of isaiah what an amazing

this is the gospel that christ said this gospel will be preached in all the world and and he said that on the heels of repeatedly quoting isaiah as he taught his disciples repeatedly quoting the scroll of isaiah and then he said this gospel will be preached in all the world so as we unpack this book of isaiah this scroll that christ quoted from so extensively let us learn from isaiah what is this good news so that we can be sure to be proclaiming this great news with that brethren i will say good night what a mighty god we serve the mighty one of israel the holy one of israel jesus christ is lord amen you