

God Of The Great Judgment - Part II

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #34

Isaiah 63:1-19 – April 19, 2017 – Wednesday

I. DESCRIPTION, 63:1-2

A. Description Of The Judge, 1

1. We have already dealt with verse one of this chapter.
2. Verse 1-2 are a description of this one who is coming in judgment.
3. We will notice that this judgment is for now and for later.

B. Description Of The Judgment, 2

1. This is not God's judgment upon his Son when Jesus died on the cross.
2. This is the judgment of nations who disobey the commands of the Lord.
3. This includes Israel and also Gentile nations.
4. This Judge is coming from the battlefield where he has fought a great battle against his enemies.
5. His garments are stained with blood from treading in the winefat, or the wine press.
6. God is bringing judgment from time to time upon Israel and eventually upon all nations who forget God.
7. Our song says, "He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored."

II. INTENTION, 63:3-6

A. God's intention is both past, present, and future.

B. He says in verse 3, "I have trodden the wine press." This is past.

1. He did this in the time of the flood.
2. He did this in the time of the destruction of the Egyptian army.
3. He has done this many times.

C. But verse 3 goes on to say "I will tread them in mine anger."

1. Revelation 14:18 *And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.*
2. . . . Revelation 14:20 *And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand [and] six hundred furlongs.*

D. Christ will do this alone with no help from any created being.

1. Verse 3 – "I have trodden the winepress alone."
2. Isaiah 63:5 says, *And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.*
3. Isaiah 59:16 *And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that [there was] no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.*

E. Christ's True Intention

1. Isaiah 63:6 *And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.*

III. KINDNESS, 63:7-9

- A. In verse 7 Isaiah is speaking of the kindnesses of the Lord, how good the Lord has been to his people.
- B. Isaiah mentions God's loving kindness and his mercies.
- C. God's people, in verse 8, are shown to belong to him. God and Christ own believers by the price of redemption.
- D. They are "children that will not lie,"
 - 1. Believers have a new nature so that their desire is not to lie, or turn from the truth, but to retain and support the truth of God.
 - 2. Believers are not of the number who are numbered with Satan's people, for unbelievers are of their father, the devil.
- E. This is because God is their Savior.
 - 1. He is the Savior of Israel and has been on many occasions.
 - 2. He is the Savior of believers, since he has redeemed them from the curse of the law.
- F. God Is In Their Affliction, 9
 - 1. God was present in all of Israel's afflictions. God was not changed by their afflictions, although he was aware of them and responded to them.
 - 2. God does not feel our afflictions in the sense that his feelings, his mind, or his purpose are changed by our afflictions.
 - 3. God had love and pity for Israel and saved them physically.
 - 4. He carried them all the way through the wilderness for which Israel was to be eternally grateful and to remember God by this great protection and deliverance.

IV. REBELLION & REMEMBRANCE, 63:10-14

- A. Rebellion
 - 1. Verse 10 says, "But they rebelled," even though God had been good, loving, kind, and merciful to them.
 - 2. Therefore God became their enemy and fought against them.
- B. Remembrance, 11-14
 - 1. After discipline, when God was their enemy and did not save them from harm, then they remembered who God really is to Israel.
 - 2. They remembered the days of old, the days of Moses, which they were never to forget.
 - 3. They are asking in verse 11, where is the God of Israel who led Moses out of Egypt and put his holy Spirit in him.
 - 4. Verse 12, where is the God of Moses who had him to lift up his arm over the Red Sea and departed the waters for Israel to go over on dry land.
 - 5. In dividing the waters God made himself an everlasting name, showing that God is not of the world but is above all.
 - 6. God led them, verse 13, through the deep, through the dry land between the two walls of water congealed on each side of the Hebrews so that they would not stumble.
 - 7. God in verse 14 led Moses by the Spirit of God so that, as he went into the sea as one would go down into a steep valley, caused Moses to have rest through the travels.
 - 8. God also led the people to be surefooted as they traveled down the banks into the Red

Sea and carry on until they were on the other side of the Red Sea, to make God an everlasting name for himself.

V. PRAYER, 63:15-19

A. Prayer For God To Look Down, 15

1. To Isaiah the zeal, strength, and bowels of mercies from heaven are held back; they are restrained, so he asked this question of God.
2. It is as though God had stopped having pity and mercy upon Israel.
3. So Isaiah calls him down from his lofty height to bless Israel again.

B. Prayer To God As Father, 16-19

1. Isaiah confesses that God is their Father, even as he is every believer's Father.
2. There is no one else to consider or to depend upon.
 - a. Could it be Abraham? No. He is ignorant of us.
 - b. Could it be Jacob (Israel)? No. He does not acknowledge us.
 - c. Only God is Israel's Father and Redeemer. His name is from everlasting.
 - (1) Psalms 90:2 *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.*
3. Isaiah in verse 17 is asking God why he made man in such a way that he will "err from thy ways." Man is sinful; man is depraved. God's grace is sufficient for spiritual salvation and eventual deliverance of the body, but as we live on earth as believers, we are still susceptible to sin, to err from God's ways.
4. God has allowed their hearts to be hardened against God's ways and to turn away from obeying the truth of God.
5. Isaiah's prayer requests God's return to the tribes of his inheritance.
6. Israel has possessed the land of promise for just a little while (18). Then God allowed the enemies to come in and destroy the temple and the walls of the city.
7. Isaiah knows, however, verse 19, that we are God's property.
 - a. God never reigned over the Gentiles as he did the Jews.
 - b. The Gentiles were never called by his name.
 - c. The great lesson here is that believers (including Jews and Gentiles) belong to the Lord, but the wicked were never called by the name of God, nor do the wicked belong to God.
 - d. We belong to God both by creation and by redemption; therefore, we expect God to bless us in a very special way.
8. Although we have sinned much, God is merciful to forgive us.
9. 1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*