

The Wilderness Shall Blossom As A Rose

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #13
Isaiah 35 – November 16, 2016 – Wednesday

- I. GLORY AND EXCELLENCE OF GOD, 35:1-4
- A. In these verse we see a detailed description of the wilderness, the solitary place and the desert.
 - B. Out of the danger, the desperation, and the depravity of the world, the wilderness, God will bring his children into a wonderful and productive place.
 - C. The earth is that place, where both sin and depravity reign through the sin of Adam, and the glory of the Lord peers through the crevices of that depravity to reveal to us his magnificance and his glory, his excellence and his honor.
 - D. People will be glad when this takes place. It will be a time of rejoicing and as a blossoming or blooming of a rose.
 - E. The rose was dying and not beautiful, but God brings the rose to its full beauty.
 - F. *Isaiah 61:3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.*
 - G. Verse 2 tells us that the rose shall bloom abundantly. There is no slackness with God.
 - H. The ultimate beauty will be shown when God takes over the entire order of nature again in the Millennial reign of Christ.
 - 1. This ultimate blooming includes joy and singing.
 - 2. This could include both animal and plant life, but it certainly includes personal joy and singing of the saints of God as they enjoy this new creation with all things made new.
 - 3. The saints will rejoice and sing because of the destruction of their enemies. There will be no more enemies to the saved.
 - I. Verse 3 tells of the glory of Lebanon. You may remember that the temple of Solomon was built from the wood from Lebanon. The temple was Israel's glory.
 - J. In this new earth, Jesus will be the temple: *Rev. 21:22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.*
 - K. Carmel and Sharon are places of fruitfulness and prosperity and for their beauty. This will be the abode of the believers in the Millennial reign of Christ.
 - L. In verse 4 Isaiah tells God's people to depend on the Lord and be strong, because the Lord will come with vengeance and save them.
- II. GOD WILL HEAL THE LAND, 35:5-10
- A. Verses 5-6 tells us that those who have physical weakness and handicaps will be healed: the blind will see, the deaf will hear, the lame will walk, the dumb will speak,
 - B. There will be soothing waters that flow in the desert for refreshment.
 - C. Verses 7-8 explain the healing of the land: parched ground will become a pool, thirsty land will become springs of water, and the land where the dragons dwelt grow grass, reeds, and rushes.
 - D. The "way of holiness" will be the name of the highway. No unclean person will pass on that highway. There will be only one way, not two or more, and it is the way of holiness.
 - E. In verse 8, "it shall be for those" refers to those who are holy by God's grace. Only the holy may walk on this road, for they have been made holy by God himself.

- F. No harm will come to anyone in that land.
 - 1. The lion will not be there.
 - a. The word *lion* is mentioned 119 times in the Bible in one form or another.
 - b. The lion is noted as the king of the animals.
 - c. A lion is fierce and is like the sinner who desires believers as his prey.
 - d. The lion here can represent wicked people. In other words there will be no wicked people walking along this way of holiness.
 - 2. The ravenous beasts will not be there
 - a. There are many kinds of ravening beasts such as wolves, tigers, etc.
 - b. They will not crawl on the highway of holiness nor watch nearby to capture the unsuspecting walker.
 - 3. But the redeemed will walk there, and only the redeemed. It is the inheritance of saints that was promised in Jesus Christ for those who believe in Jesus.
- G. The Ransomed Will Return, 10
 - 1. When Adam was created, he lived in a perfect environment much like the one we read about here.
 - 2. But Adam sinned and brought sin and destruction to the earth by his sin.
 - 3. When we believe on the Lord, we are promised to come back to a land like this.
 - 4. Israel returned to their land after the 70-year captivity, but they did not enjoy all the perfections written in this chapter.
 - 5. But being born again by the grace of God gives us a promise of this land, a city whose builder and maker is God (Heb. 11:10).
 - 6. 1 Peter 2:25 *For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.*
 - 7. Jeremiah 24:7 *And I will give them an heart to know me, that I [am] the LORD: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me with their whole heart.*