

The Bible Jesus Used

A Gospel-Centered Glance at
the Old Testament

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Isaiah at a Glance

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Isaiah and the Future

- ❖ **5 Texts, Progressively Portraying the Future Zion (Isa 2:1–4; 4:2–6; 11:1–10; 25:6–12; 65:17–25)**

❖ 2:1–4

❖ 2:1 – “latter days”

❖ The days of the royal deliverer

- ❖ Gen 49:1, 8, 10. The Jacob called his sons and said, “Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you what shall happen to you in **the latter days**. . . .⁸ Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons shall bow down before you. . . .¹⁰ The scepter shall not depart from Judah nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

❖ 2:1–4

❖ 2:1 – “latter days”

❖ The days of the royal deliverer

❖ Gen 49:1, 8, 10.

❖ Num 24:14, 17, 19. Come, I will let you know what this people will do to your people in **the latter days**. . . . ¹⁷ I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth. . . . ¹⁹ And one from Jacob shall exercise dominion and destroy the survivors of cities!

- ❖ The days of when Israel experiences the curse of exile.
- ❖ Deut 31:29. For I know that after my death you will surely act corruptly and turn aside from the way that I have commanded. And in **the latter days** evil will befall you, because you will do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger through the work of your hands.

- ❖ **The days of the restoration after exile**
 - ❖ Deut 4:30–31. When you are in tribulation, and all these things come upon you in **the latter days**, you will return to the LORD your God and obey his voice. ³¹ For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.
 - ❖ Hos 3:5. Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God, and David their king, and they shall come in fear to the LORD and to his goodness in **the latter days**.

❖ The present days of the Spirit's power

❖ Acts 2:16–17. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ “And in **the last days** it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.”

❖ The present days since Jesus' first coming

❖ Heb 1:1. Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in **these last days** he has spoken to us by his Son.

❖ **2:2 – “the mountain of the house of the LORD”**

❖ **Echoes of the garden of Eden**

❖ **Gen 2:10. A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers . . . the Pishon . . . the Gihon . . . the Tigris . . . the Euphrates.**

❖ **Echoes of the Promised Land**

❖ **Exod 15:17. You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain, the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.**

- ❖ **Anticipations already being fulfilled today**
 - ❖ **Heb 12:22. You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering.**
- ❖ **Anticipations that will be fulfilled completely at the consummation**
 - ❖ **Rev 21:2. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**

- ❖ **2:2–3 – “that he may teach us his ways . . . the law”**
- ❖ **Isa 51:4. Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set justice for a light to the peoples.**
- ❖ **Isa 42:4. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.**
- ❖ **Matt 28:19–20. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, . . . teaching them to observe all that I have commanded.**

❖ 4:2–6

❖ 4:5 – “over all the glory there will be a canopy”

❖ Jer 3:16–17. And when you have multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, . . . they shall no more say, “The ark of the covenant of the LORD.” It shall not come to mind or be remembered. . . .¹⁷ At that time Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the LORD, and all nations shall gather to it, to the presence of the LORD in Jerusalem, and they shall no more stubbornly follow their own evil heart.

- ❖ Zech 2:4–5. Jerusalem shall be inhabited as villages without walls, because of the multitude of people and livestock in it. ⁵ And I will be to her a wall of fire all around, declares the LORD, and I will be the glory in her midst.
- ❖ Rev 21:22–24. And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

❖ **11:1–10**

❖ **11:2 – “the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him”**

❖ **Isa 61:1–2. The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn. (Cf. Luke 4:18–19.)**

- ❖ **11:9 – “they shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.”**
- ❖ **11:10 – “the nations shall inquire”**
- ❖ **11:11 – “to recover the remnant that remains of his people”**

❖ **25:6–12**

- ❖ **25:8 – “He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces.”**
- ❖ **Rev 21:4. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.**

❖ 65:17–25

❖ 65:17 – “I create new heavens and a new earth”

❖ Rev 21:1. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

❖ 2 Cor 5:17. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

❖ Gal 6:15. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

❖ 65:25 – “the wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw”

❖ Figures of speech and the future

❖ The age of the messiah and the ingathering of the nations: **no fear, for the lion is a vegetarian**

❖ Isa 11:1, 6–9. There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse. . . . ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

❖ **The age of the return to Zion: no fear, for the lion is not present**

❖ Isa 35:8–10. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

❖ **The new creation: no fear, for the lion is a vegetarian**

❖ Isa 65:17, 25. For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth. . . . ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain.

❖ **Synthesis:**

- ❖ **Isaiah's sees that in the latter days the centrality and importance of the new Jerusalem rise in the eyes of the world.**
- ❖ **There God's law will go forth through the instrument of his messianic servant, who will establish both justice and peace.**
- ❖ **There God's glory will both permeate and protect, and the boundaries of the city will expand to hold all the redeemed from the world.**

- ❖ **To there the nations will gather as the culmination of a second exodus and new creation.**
- ❖ **At that time, death and pain will be destroyed, and a new heavens and earth will be enjoyed by the preserved ones of the earth who have sought refuge in Yahweh and the Davidic king.**

- ❖ **This messianic age of hope, where the curse is abolished is *already* and *not yet*.**
- ❖ **It has truly been inaugurated already in the first coming of Christ; we are a new creation and are living in the last days and have already come “to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.” Our lives are already hidden with Christ, who is seated at the right hand of God (Col 3:1, 3). The Great Commission is seeing the ingathering of the nations to the heavenly Jerusalem, and the law of God has gone forth through his Servant, Jesus Christ.**

❖ **But while the new creation is inaugurated, it has not yet been consummated. While death and the curse have been conquered, we await to see their complete eradication. While hope today exists through tears and pain, we look ahead to the day when tears and pain and all curse will be no more. We long for the day when we, with John, “will see the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God” (Rev 21:2).**