

Isaiah's Picture of the Church

(Isa. 2:1-5)

Introduction:

1. Remember that Isaiah lived and prophesied 700 years before the birth of Christ, yet he had more to say about Jesus than any other prophet. He is sometimes referred to as the Messianic Prophet.
2. Old Testament prophecies tell us much that is fulfilled later in the New Testament.

Discussion:

1. **The Prophets and Their Work.**

1. The prophets were men who were sent to their own generation to teach, warn, and rebuke the sins of the day. They emphasized a RETURN TO GOD!
2. They kept alive the picture of the coming Messiah and His Kingdom. As Stephen said, "**they... showed before the coming of the Just One...**" (Acts 7:52).

2. **A Full Picture of the Church and the New Testament Order.**

1. Isaiah spoke of the coming Lord (9:6).
2. He spoke of the Lord's government (9:7).
3. He spoke of the Lord's virgin birth (7:14).
4. He also spoke of the Lord as a suffering servant (53:1ff).

3. **Isaiah's Picture.**

1. A picture of the **New Testament Age**. In "the last days" (v. 2). The question is "when are the last days?" Consider Acts 2:17, Joel 2:28, and Dan. 2:28,44. Heb. 1:1,2.
2. A picture of **the church of our Lord**. The prophet predicts that in the last days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established (v. 2). What is the Lord's house? 1 Tim. 3:15.
3. A picture of that embraces **all Nations**. The OT was a system for the Jews – for the most part Gentiles were excluded. But in the New Kingdom all nations were included (Mark 16:16,16; Rom. 1:16; and John 10:16).
4. A picture of **the New Law**. In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount we have the drafting of the new constitution. It is implemented in Acts 2.
5. A picture of a **Rule of Peace**. Jesus is the Prince of Peace (Isa. 9:6). If all men would live by the example of Christ, we would have peace. But sadly some will not (2 Cor. 10:3-5).