

We Are Fellowship Bible Study



Book: Isaiah

Chapter 4: The Renewal of Zion

v:1 And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, "We will eat our own food and wear our own apparel; Only let us be called by your name, to take away our reproach." (Reference to Is 2:11,17)

A husband was meant to provide for his wife. These women were so desperate that they sought to be covered by any man. Multiple women were willing to share one man and provide what the

husband was supposed to, (as to not be a burden to him), just to have the covering of his name. When God designed marriage, it was to unite one man with one woman. Our relationship with each other and the seed we produce, is a mirror of the 3-in-1 relationship: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit have. The imbalance of seven women taking hold of one man was an act of hopelessness. They attempted to remove their shame (reproach) by hiding under the man's name and covering themselves to rid their blame. Have you ever seen a wall that was painted over so many times that you could tell it was improperly done? The topcoat was a false mask in an attempt to hide the damage that was not properly dealt with underneath. This goes further as the head of the household is responsible for what happens to the family. When God visits the sins of the father to the 3rd and 4th generations, generational curses are made. When these women sought to be covered by a husband, they attempted to remove their curses by hiding under his blessing.

v:2 In that day the Branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious; and the fruit of the earth *shall be* excellent and appealing for those of Israel who have escaped. (Reference to Is 11:1; Jer 23:5)

The Branch of the Lord refers to Jesus and the salvation He provides. There is reference to Jeremiah 23:5 that says, **"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord. "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth."** The fruit of

this Branch, Jesus, will provide a desirable escape from Israel's sin and judgment.

v:3 And it shall come to pass that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy -everyone who is recorded among the living in Jerusalem. (Reference to Lev 11:44)

He is speaking of the remnant. Those that have survived and been separated from the wrath like wine grapes in a vineyard unscorched from the sun. When the vinedresser comes to reap the harvest, the holy will be accounted in the Lamb's book of life, recorded among the living (and not the dead) in Jerusalem.

v:4 When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning, (Reference to Ezek 36:25-27)

The shift from judgment to hope is again seen in verse 4. Blood was used in sacrifices in attempt to be cleansed from sin. God washed away this sin with the judgment poured out and the refining of his people. There is reference to Ezekiel 36:25-27 that says, **"Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you, I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My**

judgments and do them." This is an act of grace, mercy, and reconciliation.

v:5 Then the Lord will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there *will be* a covering."

This is reminiscent of Israel's original escape from Egypt and the Israelites being led by a cloud of smoke by day and a flame of fire by night. They were given constant direction and protection. "For over all the glory there *will be* a covering." God is our husband, our protector and provider whose name we are to bear. We are the bride of Christ.

v:6 And there will be a tabernacle for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain. (Reference to Is 25:4)

Refuge is translated in the Hebrew form meaning a place of hope, shelter, and trust. This tabernacle is similar to the hut in the middle of the cucumber field in Is 1:8. It is meant to keep someone safe from the elements. It is a place to rest and to be restored, protected from harm's way. This is what God seeks to do in our lives. He offers us protection, hope, rest, restoration, and shelter.

Chapter 4 speaks of restoration for Israel and how after the judgment, we will return to a right standing with the Lord. Almost like new life springing up after a forest fire.