

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 245 – The Slaying Of Leviathan Through Worship In Jerusalem (Isaiah 27:1-13)

1. What did the Lord do to the leviathan?

“In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea” (Isaiah 27:1).

- That day has been the language since **Isaiah 24:21** wherein the earth was punished and salvation (**Isaiah 25:9**) has come to His people bringing song and joy (**Isaiah 26:1**).
- The Lord’s sword (**Deuteronomy 32:41-42**, **Psalms 7:8-13**, **Psalms 45:3**, **Isaiah 34:5-6**, **Isaiah 66:16**, **Jeremiah 47:6**, and **Ezekiel 21:9-12**).
- The figure of God destroying the leviathan, which was nearly impossible to kill with a sword or other strong weapons (**Job 41:1-34**), establishes God’s might over all things (**Psalms 74:12-14**; cf. **Jeremiah 32:17** and **Luke 18:27**).

2. Who was the keeper of the vineyard spoken of in this context?

The Lord: *“(2) In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine. (3) I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day” (Isaiah 27:2-3).*

- The singing of the Lord concerning His vineyard (**Isaiah 5:1-7**).
- God as the keeper of Israel of old (**Deuteronomy 33:26-29**, **Psalms 46:1-5**, and **Psalms 121:1-5**).
- God watering and caring for His people of old (**Isaiah 58:11** and **Jeremiah 17:5-8**).
- God was their keeper night and day (**Isaiah 4:4-6**).

3. Did God want His fury to continue or did He want man to make peace with Him?

God wanted man to realize they cannot do anything to Him and to make peace with Him: *“(4) Fury is not in me: who would set the briers and thorns against me in battle? I would go through them, I would burn them together. (5) Or let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me” (Isaiah 27:4-5).*

- We know that God can be furious and act in such a manner (**Leviticus 26:28**, **Isaiah 34:2**, **Isaiah 42:25**, **Isaiah 51:17**, **Jeremiah 4:4**, **Jeremiah 21:12**, and **Ezekiel 7:8**). Thus, we know He is establishing a time wherein His fury is past rather than saying He’s never been or will not be furious.
- What is occurring is that God is done giving them fury at this point (**Isaiah 51:22** and **Jeremiah 32:37**). *Will talk more of this as this chapter concludes.
- Who can stand before God and Him not run through them (**Psalms 2:1-9**, **Psalms 76:7**, **Isaiah 45:9**, and **Nahum 1:6**)?
- Rather, God wanted them to recognize His might and make peace with Him (cf. **Jeremiah 14:17-22**).

4. What was God going to cause them of Jacob to do?

Take root and bear fruit in the world: *“He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit” (Isaiah 27:6).*

- Remember, when you are talking about Jacob you are talking about Israel (**Genesis 32:28**).
- Coming out of captivity, in this language, has already been stated through Isaiah (**Isaiah 10:20** and **Isaiah 14:1**).
- God’s expectation of them is to take root and bear fruit (**II Kings 19:30** and **Isaiah 37:31**).

5. When Israel needed correction, did God show them favor or did He punish them?

Punished: *“(7) Hath he smitten him, as he smote those that smote him? or is he slain according to the slaughter of them that are slain by him? (8) In measure, when it shooteth forth, thou wilt debate with it: he stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind. (9) By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged; and this is all the fruit to take away his sin; when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, the groves and images shall not stand up. (10) Yet the defenced city shall be desolate, and the habitation forsaken, and left like a wilderness: there shall the calf feed, and there shall he lie down, and consume the branches thereof. (11) When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off: the women come, and set them on fire: for it is a people of no understanding: therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them, and he that formed them will shew them no favour” (Isaiah 27:7-11).*

- God did not show favor (**Psalms 106:40** and **Jeremiah 16:10-13**), though He did measure His punishment differently against Israel (**Jeremiah 30:11-16**; cf. **Isaiah 44:24**) for a reason (**Genesis 22:18**, **II Kings 8:19**, **II Kings 19:34**, **Ezekiel 16:60-61**, and **Hebrews 7:14**).
- Favor comes through being good (**Proverbs 12:2**)
- God has smitten His people with His fury (**Jeremiah 44:6**).

6. After God took action, what was His plan for the outcasts of Israel?

Gather them back to Jerusalem to worship Him: *“(12) And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel. (13) And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem” (Isaiah 27:12-13).*

- **Psalms 68:22**, **Isaiah 11:12-16**, **Nehemiah 1:5-9**, and **Jeremiah 3:14**.