

Two Cities

Isaiah 24 - 27

by Don Falkos

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Isaiah proclaimed:

The Lord made the earth and rules over it. But the earth is corrupted by those who have broken the Lord's covenant. Instead of caring for the Lord's creation, they have attempted to claim it for themselves and use its resources for their own gain. They have made the earth like a heap of rubble, like a ruined city that will never be rebuilt. They will be punished regardless of their social or political status. Their joyful celebration will become a funeral; those who try to escape will be captured; those in power will find themselves in prison. The Lord Almighty will reign.

But the Lord is a shelter from the storm, a shade from the heat. The Lord is a refuge for the poor and the needy, the widow and the orphan, the immigrant and the marginalized. The Lord will remove all their disgrace, wipe away all their tears, and provide them with a glorious feast. The Lord will overcome the fearsome sea serpent Leviathan...that is...all the wicked nations of the earth. Death will be no more.

God's salvation is like a city with strong walls, a city protected by magnificent fortifications. Those from every nation who trust in the Lord will be gathered together and will enter this city. God will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are unwavering in their dependence on the Lord. The power and mercy of the Lord will bring about the resurrection of the dead. And the people will shout for joy, praising God.