

Come to the Feast

As I pointed out last Lord's Day, that the Scriptures are a real history of what God has purposed from all eternity. The greater part of Isaiah is God's revelation to the prophet of what He is going to do in time. It is important to understand that Scripture throughout is simply letting us know that God rules over the whole of His creation and that He rules over the nations arranging all things from the beginning to the end. God makes this clear when in Isaiah chapter 46 verses 9-11 God says, "*Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,' calling a bird of prey from the east, the man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.*"

Therefore from the eternal decree of God the Prophet thus proceeds to doctrines and promises. We may not always understand how He will bring to pass what He has purposed but we can always be assured it will be for the good of His elect. I am sure that as the next few verses speaks of God using pagan rulers to chasten and at the same time God promises His protecting love. To sum up what we read in Isaiah verses 2 thru 5; we learn that God will bring great cities down to ruin, never to be rebuilt. That through all this the "strong people" will glorify God and the city of terrible nations will fear Him while at the same time He will be, even in a time of chastening, a protection and strength to His people. Regarding this passage Calvin writes, "It is therefore as if he had said, 'You will not only strike and afflict, O Lord, but will cause the chastisements not to be without effect; for by them you will subdue the fierceness of men, so that those who were formerly estranged from you shall bend their neck to you.' This passage should lead us to observe how much we need chastisements, which train us to obedience to God; for we are carried away by prosperity to such an extent, that we think that we have a right to do anything, and we even grow wanton and insolent when God treats us with gentleness."

But now as we come to verse six we have Isaiah leaving the subject of the soon coming chastening upon Israel and returning to the promise of a coming kingdom age that will include Jew and Gentile alike. Now we have already seen the cause for praise, God is our God. The reason for our praise God has done a marvelous thing. Now we shall see that we have a further reason for praise, God will make a feast of all the best for His people.

Isa 25:6 And in this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all people a feast of choice pieces, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of well-refined wines on the lees.

A. God will pour out His blessings upon all people at the coming of the Messiah

1. Described as a great feast

a. This is the same metaphor that was used by David describing the kingdom of Christ

Ps 22:26-28 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him will praise the Lord. Let your heart live forever! All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You. For the kingdom is the Lord's, And He rules over the nations.

b. Same promise given by our Lord

Matt 8:11-12 And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

(1) Christ here clearly states that men of all nations throughout the world will receive of the promises made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

(2) That is, Gentiles will be received into the kingdom of heaven, adopted into the very family of Abraham

(3) He further clearly states that the natural children, Israel as a people will be brought to an end

c. By this we understand that no class of men will be excluded from partaking of this glorious provision

d. Prior to the coming of the Messiah only the children of Abraham were nourished and kept

e. Now the gift of salvation will be given to all men

B. God will provide a feast for all nations - *the Lord of hosts will make for all people a feast of choice pieces*

1. This is clearly a pronounced change that will make up the people of God
2. Formerly God was known to one nation only.

Ps 76:1 In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Ps 147:19-20 He declares His word to Jacob, His statutes and His judgments to Israel. He has not dealt thus with any nation; and as for His judgments, they have not known them.

3. This is still more evident from Christ's own words, when he compares the kingdom of heaven to a marriage-feast which the King prepared for his Son (cf. Matthew 22:2, 3.)
 - a. Which first the call went out to only those who had been invited, that is, the Jews
 - b. Then he invites all without exception, because those who were at first invited refused to come.
4. We understand by this that the feast speaks of the **preaching of the gospel** as it proceeded from Mount Zion
 - a. The Lord invites us at the present day, that he may fill and satisfy us with good things
 - b. God raises up faithful ministers to prepare for us that feast, and gives power and efficacy to his word, that we may be satisfied with it.

CONCLUSION: I believe the phrase "In this mountain" refers to the Church

Though men are invited from the highways and byways they must come to the feast

Men must come to the Church as the guest were invited to come to the feast
 Outside of which there is no salvation
 We simply mean by that statement that outside of the Church there is no gospel
 It is from the church that the gospel is proclaimed
 It is in the Church alone where God is worshipped

Speaking of the banquet being rich and sumptuous is to commend the doctrine of the gospel;

It is by the Word of God we come to faith
 It is by the Word of God our souls are fed,
 This is why faithful shepherds are to FEED the flock which is among them

The message of the church must be the Word of God
 The message of the church must be Christ and Him crucified

For when one feasts upon the word of God they have no need of anything more

*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.** (2 Tim 3:16,17)*

One further thought - *Rev 19:7-8 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints.*

Righteous acts - that which is deemed right by the law or by God
 To her was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright

Rev 19:9 *Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'"*

The One who fed the multitude with 5 loaves and 2 fishes
 The One who turn water into the finest of wines
 This is the One who will provide for us for all eternity

Think on that dear ones, you, by the grace of God and imputed righteousness of Christ are the invited guest

Feasting today on His Word
 Feasting eternally in His presence