

# INITIATION INTO ISAIAH

by

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## CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

### THEME:

Coming—the Kingdom (concluded).

### REMARKS:

This chapter brings to a conclusion the threefold song of the Kingdom.

The first verse regarding the punishment of Leviathan evidently belongs to the succeeding chapter. It is not part of the Song of the Vineyard begun in verse 2.

The Song of the Vineyard reminds us of chapter 5. The Vineyard is Israel in both chapters. All is contrast however. There was failure and judgment in chapter 5, here there is abundance, blessing and satisfaction on the part of the Lord. In chapter 5 the Lord looked for grapes and found only wild grapes. This speaks of the past. In this chapter the Lord finds it is a vineyard of red wine. This speaks of the future.

### OUTLINE:

1. **SONG of the Vineyard—Continued from Chapter 5.** Verses 1-6
2. **SMITING of Israel and Her Enemies—Contrasted.** Verses 7-11
3. **SURE RETURN of Israel to Promised Land—Confessed.** Verses 12-13

### COMMENT:

Verse 1—**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.**

“**In that day**” occurs three times in this chapter, verses 1, 2, and 12.

This familiar expression is a technical one, as we have seen, and covers that period beginning with the Great Tribulation and extending through the first 1,000 years of the Kingdom. In this chapter it can be pinpointed in each instance as the time of the Coming of Christ to set up His Kingdom.

“**Leviathan**” here is evidently Satan; he has many titles which define his mysterious working of iniquity.

**And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth and his angels were cast out with him** (Revelation 12:9).

It means here “*a joined dragon.*”

We find a description of the Leviathan in Job 41:15-17.

His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal. One is so near to another that no air can come between them. They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered, his scales are his protection and he thinks that he is invulnerable. This leads to the pride of Satan. This verse shows how wrong he is and that God will judge him.

Delitzsch has suggested that:

- “**The piercing serpent**” or literally “*swift-fleeing serpent*” represents the Tigris River and thereby the nation of Assyria.
- “**The crooked serpent**” represents the winding Euphrates and thereby the nation of Babylon.
- “**The dragon that is in the sea**” represents the Nile River and thereby the nation of Egypt.

This would not militate against “**Leviathan**” meaning Satan, but would enforce this interpretation, as Satan was back of these kingdoms.

Verse 2—**In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine.**

The subject here is altogether different from verse 1. “**A vineyard of red wine**” speaks of abundance, fruitfulness, bounty and joy. What a contrast to Isaiah 5!

Verse 3—**I the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.**

The Lord is the husbandman here, and never again will He ever let it out to others, he is the husbandman who keeps an eye continually upon it, he watches it night and day that no enemy may enter.

Verse 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.**

If briers or thorns appeared again He would burn them out. There will be a judgment of individuals during the Millennium.

**Verse 5—Or let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me.**

The enemy can make peace with God even in the kingdom, for God never ceases to be merciful.

This is the only place in Scripture where it is even suggested that man can make peace with God.

Of course here it has to do with obedience to the King and not the acceptance of a Saviour. Man cannot make peace with God about the sin question. God has already done that, he made peace by the blood of His cross. Today we have peace.

**Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1).**

**Verse 6—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.**

The song of the vineyard concludes with Israel fulfilling her God-intended mission at last—filling “**the face of the world, with fruit.**” The Lord God is satisfied.

**Verse 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?**

This verse opens with a question that has been partially answered already in the book of Isaiah. Light creates responsibility. In view of the fact that Israel had more light, her sin was blacker, her punishment was greater. She received more stripes than the nations who smote her.

**You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities (Amos 3:2).**

Her punishment was severe, but God did not destroy Israel as He did some other nations.

**The Lord hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death (Psalms 118:18).**

**Verse 8—In measure, when it shooteth forth, thou wilt debate with it: he stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind.**

The wind of judgment did not exterminate the nation. It actually was more fierce than upon others.

**Verse 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.**

It was not the suffering for sin that atoned for Israel's sin. The sin of Jacob was purged by a blood offering. The sin of the nation is expiated by the blood of Christ.

**Verse 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.**

**Verse 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.**

Still the cities that Israel built are to be destroyed like any city that man apart from God builds.

**Verse 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.**

**Verse 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.**

This section reveals that God definitely intends to restore the nation Israel to the Promised Land. They will be returned personally and individually, nothing could be clearer than this.

Assyria, Egypt, Israel and Jerusalem are all literal and language means what it says. The logical conclusion is that God will regather Israel. This has never been fulfilled in the past. It is yet future.

**~ end of chapter 27 ~**

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