Life-Study of Isaiah Summary – Messages 1 to 5

Introduction

The book of Isaiah is the first of the books of the prophets. Isaiah's prophecy has a spiritual essence, and the essence is this: The Christ processed for the divine purposes being the centrality and the universality of the great wheel of the move of the Divine Trinity for the divine dispensing of Himself into His elect.

The subject of the book of Isaiah is the salvation of Jehovah through the incarnated, crucified, resurrected, ascended, and coming Christ. This is the salvation of the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. This is full salvation, entire salvation.

The content of Isaiah is God's dealing in love with His beloved Israel and His righteous judgment upon the nations bring in Christ, the Savior, who is God incarnated to be a man, possessing both the diving and human nature, living on this earth, crucified, resurrected, ascended, and coming to meet the need of God's chosen people and the nations in God's all-inclusive salvation, that the restoration of all things may be brought in, which will consummate in the new heaven and new earth for eternity.

The central thought of Isaiah is Christ is God incarnated in humanity to be the Savior of man, that all the God-created universe, which is fallen, might be restored and consummate in the new heaven and new earth for eternity.

The Salvation of Jehovah to His Beloved People and the Nations

The first section of the book of Isaiah covers the salvation of Jehovah to His beloved people and the nations. Jehovah has brought up Israel and raised them; yet they rebelled against Him. As the Holy One, He deals with His people, and as the Righteous One, He deals with the nations. God deals with His elect in love that they may be holy. God judges the nations because they are not just and righteous. In God's dealing with Israel, He first exposes the actual situation of His people and then comes in to deal with them, to chastise them. God's chastening and disciplining is to uplift us from righteousness to holiness. As the sons of God, we need to go on from righteousness to reach holiness, to show ourselves holy in righteousness.

In 2:7-9 we have Isaiah's accusation against the haughty nations. Because the nations trusted in their idols, God judged them in order to humiliate them. The purpose of Jehovah's humiliating judgment is, first, to show the dread of Jehovah and the splendor of His majesty. It is also to vindicate the fact that Jehovah alone will be exalted. As a result of God's judgment, men will be abased and humbled, and will cast their idols of silver and gold to the moles and to the bats. Men will do things to attempt to hide from the dread of Jehovah and from the splendor of His majesty. The lesson of Jehovah's humiliating judgment is that we should stop regarding man.

God's judgment on the haughty nations ushers in the God-man, Christ, issuing in the restoration of the nation of Israel. In the book of Isaiah, Christ is unveiled as the God-man, the Shoot of Jehovah with beauty and glory and the Fruit of the earth with excellence and splendor. The Shoot of Jehovah denotes that Christ is a new development of Jehovah God for the Triune God to branch out Himself in His divinity into humanity. The Fruit of the earth denotes that Christ, as the divine Shoot of Jehovah, also becomes a man of flesh from the earth for the Triune God to be multiplied and reproduced in humanity. In Isaiah 4:5 and 6 Christ is revealed as a canopy (covering glory of Christ in His divinity) and a tabernacle (the God-man, Christ, in His humanity with His grace).

For Christ to be both the Shoot of Jehovah and the Fruit of the earth indicates that He is the God-man. In Him God and man live together as one. Christ is not only the Shoot and the Fruit— He is also the canopy to cover us and to cover God's move and everything related to it and also a tabernacle to overshadow God's chosen people. (Life-Study of Isaiah – Messages 1 to 5)