<u>Life-Study of Isaiah Summary – Messages 41 to 45</u>

The King Reigning in the Tent of David, the Eternal Rock, a Savior—A Defender, and a Teacher

The all-inclusive Christ is the King reigning in the tent of David. He reigns not only in our hearts but also in the tent of David. Christ reigning in the tent of David signifies consolation, encouragement, and restoration. If we are under His ruling, His reigning, we will be the same as He is in lovingkindness, truthfulness, faithfulness, justice, and righteousness.

Every human being apart from Christ has nothing to trust in, but we have the Lord as the eternal Rock to trust in. Isaiah 17:10 reveals that He is the Rock of stronghold for His people to remember Him as their salvation. Isaiah 19:20 reveals that Christ is also a Savior—a Defender, who is the Mighty One especially for Egypt—the Gentiles. Today we, as the Gentiles, do enjoy Christ as our Savior and our mighty Defender. Isaiah 30:20 shows us that Christ is also the Teacher. Today, in the New Testament age of grace, He is manifested to us. We have a Teacher who will no longer hide Himself in a corner from His people but will always instruct His people to turn to the right or turn to the left at the crossroad.

Christ, Typified by Eliakim

The type in Isaiah 22 first reveals that Christ is the Steward in God's house. In this chapter, we see Shebna as the steward over the king's house, the royal household, the royal family. All the treasures were in the king's house, and the key to this house was in his hand. Eventually, he was replaced by Eliakim, a type of Christ as the Steward in the house of God. Christ takes care of God's household in every way to serve us. When we are served by Christ, we are under His government. The more He takes care of us, the more we are under His authority, His administration. Isaiah 22 also shows us that Christ will become a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. As the Father, He is our Source and Supplier. The allinclusive Christ is also the One upon whose shoulder the key of the house of God is set. Christ is the One who can open up to us all the riches of God embodied in Him.

Christ is the One whom God drives as a peg, or nail, into a sure place. Christ today is in the heavens as a peg driven into God. He is the peg upon which all of us hang. Christ as a peg will become a throne of glory for His Father's house. Christ being a throne of glory for His Father's house is the issue of His people, who are vessels, hanging upon Him as the peg in order to contain Him and minister Him to others.

A Crown of Glory and a Diadem of Beauty; a Stone as a Foundation, a Tested Stone and a Precious Cornerstone; and a King like a Refuge, a Covering, Streams of Water, and the Shadow of a Massive Rock

In Isaiah 28 we see that Christ is reveals as a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty. Christ will be both glory and beauty to His elect people. Christ, who is our glory and our beauty, is also a stone in many aspects. This stone is a foundation firmly established for God's building in Israel. Christ is a tested stone which has been tried and which is trustworthy. He is fully qualified to be our foundation because He has been tested. This stone is also a precious cornerstone for the joint of God's building. We are joined together by Christ as our cornerstone.

Isaiah 32 and 33 reveals Christ as a King for supplying us, caring for us, and covering us. This Man-king is a refuge to us from the wind and a covering from the tempest. Christ is also streams of water in a dry place. These streams of water are our supply, comfort, and satisfaction. He is also the shadow of a massive rock in a wasted land.

Jehovah the Savior

In Isaiah 40 Christ is revealed as Jehovah the Savior, as the glad tidings. The Savior was ushered in by the voice of one (John the Baptist) crying in the wilderness. John's introduction was prophesied by Isaiah in 40:3-4. In verse 3, to make clear the way of Jehovah is to make straight in the desert a highway for our God. To make a highway for our God is to prepare our heart. Jesus comes with the intention of getting into our spirit, but to enter into our spirit, He must pass through our heart.

Jesus, the One coming after John, would be the appearing of Jehovah. This is the glad tidings, the good news. If you have God, you have everything. If you have God, every problem will be solved, every lack will be supplied, and every shortage will be filled. Isaiah 40:9 declares the glad tidings—"Here is your God!" We can all declare, "Here is our God!" This is the second aspect of the glad tidings. The third aspect of the glad tidings is the Lord Jehovah coming. He comes as a mighty One to rule and to recompense. With Him is a reward on the positive side and a punishment, which is a recompense on the negative side. As the mighty One, He comes to be a Shepherd. As the Shepherd, He feeds His flock, gathers the lambs in His arm, carries them in His bosom, and leads those who are nursing the young. After this kind of shepherding, the flock will know Jesus as the Holy One, the eternal God, Jehovah, the Creator of the ends of the earth, sitting above the circle of the earth. We have to preach Christ to such an extend, causing people to know that they are just vanity, emptiness. We have to count all things dung that we may gain Christ and enjoy Christ. This is the fourth aspect of the glad tidings. The fifth aspect of the glad tidings is that Jehovah the Savior empowers and strengthens those who wait on Him.

The Servant of Jehovah

Isaiah tells us that Cyrus was the one whom God chose, whom God raised up, whom God called, whom God anointed, whom God loved, and the one who would do God's pleasure to make God happy all the time. He was loved by God and worked to please God. Hence, Cyrus was a type of Christ as the Servant of Jehovah. Each one of us needs to be today's Cyrus. Like Cyrus, we need to be birds of prey who go out to gain sinners for God's kingdom.

Israel as a type of Christ is more subjective. As the ones chosen by God, they are God's kingdom, God's house, and God's household. Isarel as a type of Christ, the Servant of Jehovah, was chosen by Jehovah and upheld with the right hand of righteousness. In Israel, Jehovah was glorified, just as God was glorified in Christ.

Isaiah also worked as a type of Christ, the Servant of Jehovah, to accomplish God's heart's desire. His prophecy helped in the release of Israel and the rebuilding of the temple and the city. Isaiah typifies Christ as one made by Jehovah to be His mouthpiece to speak forth His word.

We need to have the realization that we are today's Cyrus, Isarel, and Isaiah because we are one with our Lord Jesus Christ. We all are God's servants doing the same thing in the universe—to release God's people, to build up His temple, the house, and to build up His kingdom, the city.

(Life-Study of Isaiah - Messages 41 to 45)