THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

THE GOD OF OUR SALVATION

ISAIAH CHAPTER 59:3-21

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"What Is Real? What Is Relevant? - Part 1"

Discovering the Salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Prophecies of Isaiah

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER: Israel, Repentance, Prayer, Messiah, King, Salvation

Man's Cosmic Quest for Answers Newsweek Special Issue

Isn't there a gross hypocrisy within us as humans? Let me explain. We spend billions of dollars looking for life on other planets and for what reason?

CNN, Water on Mars Maybe Life Too

https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/25/world/mars-subsurface-water-lake-evidence/index.html

We are so willing to search for life on other planets, no matter how microscopic or embryonic it might be (why?)

We collect moon dust and analyze it to see if it has any trace of life. We find water on mars and go bananas (why?)

How important is it to you that we discover life somewhere? Why do we really care to find life somewhere else?

The Book of Isaiah is unlike any other book of the Bible

For many reasons, but as I told you last time; #1 It's the most revered of the Prophetic Books of the Old Testament. #2 Isaiah is known as the "Evangelical Prophet" because there are more chapters and verses, prophecies that foretell of the ministry of Israel's Messiah than any other book. #3 Isaiah is a "Bible in miniature", a mini-bible (why?) Because the first 39 chapters (39 books) of Isaiah align perfectly with Israel's creation, existence, rebellion and captivity. #4 the last 27 chapters (27 books) chapters of Isaiah speaks of Israel's restoration, the conversion of the believing gentiles and the coming rule and reign, government of Israel's Messiah - - we gentiles know Him now, Jesus Christ.

Chapters 57 to 59

Are in direct agreement with, perfect harmony with the doctrines of God regarding the redemption of mankind and the coming judgment of all evil.

Romans 15:4

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Previously In Isaiah 59

Isaiah 59:1-2

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. **2** But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

Can You Hear Me Now?

| 1.) The Lord is able to forgive | vs. 1a |
|---|--------|
| 2.) The Lord is desiring to hear | vs. 1b |
| 3.) The Lord will not tolerate our iniquities | vs. 2a |
| 4.) The Lord will no longer favor us | vs. 2b |

What Is Real? What Is Relevant?

1.) We will need to look into the mirror

vs. 3-8

3 For **your hands** are defiled with blood, and **your fingers** with iniquity; **your lips** have spoken lies, **your tongue** has muttered perversity.

This reality is set in steep contrast to Israel/Judah's religious practices and professions.

What's Real? What's Relevant?

Verse 4-6

4 No one calls for **justice**, nor does any plead for **truth**. They trust in empty words and speak lies; they conceive evil and bring forth iniquity. 5 They hatch vipers' eggs and weave the spider's web; he who eats of their eggs dies, and from that which is crushed a viper breaks out. 6 Their webs will not become garments, nor will they cover themselves with their works; their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands.

The Original Spider-Man - - Ironsides' Story in Los Angeles

Verse 7-8

7 Their feet **run** to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood; their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths.

Have you noticed how energetic evil is?

(it seems that there is always enough energy to do the wrong thing or a worthless thing)

Have you noticed that sin often acts like a sugar rush?

(there are people who do not have enough energy to go to church or go to work – but they have enough energy & time to go out and buy pot or sex)

2

"A young couple, someone we were talking to recently said that they had said; "Hey San Francisco looks cool, we've never been there. Let's go!" As they were in the city, a shootout happened right in front of them in the middle of the day and a man was shot dead just a few feet away from them."

What's Real? What's Relevant?

2 Timothy 3:1-4

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: **2** For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, **3** unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, **4** traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death,

Verse 8

8 The way of **peace** they have not known, and there is no **justice** in their ways; they have made themselves **crooked** paths; whoever takes that way shall not know peace.

This is profoundly simple & undeniably relevant

Crooked heb: aqash.

to **twist** or **bend** that which is straight. to take something that is right and make it **wrong**. to take what is straight and to make **crooked**. to become **perverted**.

PERVERTED when was the last time you heard the word?

Isaiah 5:11

Woe to those who rise early in the morning, that they may follow intoxicating drink; Who continue until night, till wine inflames them!

Isaiah 5:18

What sorrow for those who drag their sins behind them with ropes made of lies, who drag wickedness behind them like a cart!

Isaiah 5:20-21 NLT

What **sorrow for those** who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter. **21** What sorrow for those who are wise in their own eyes and think themselves so clever.

