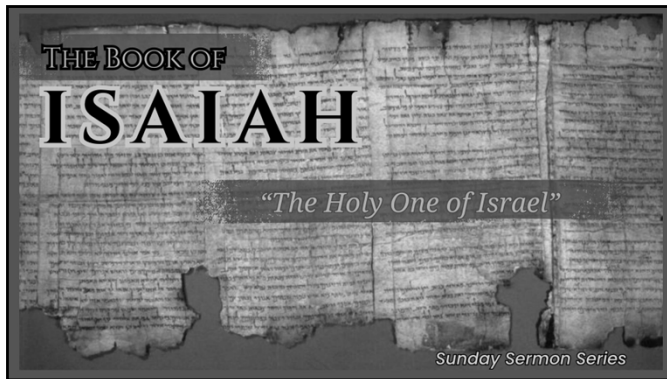




1

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
 Their old, familiar carols play,
 And wild and sweet
 The words repeat
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;
 "There is no peace on earth," I said;
 "For hate is strong,
 And mocks the song
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
 "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
 The Wrong shall fail,
 The Right prevail,
 With peace on earth, good-will to men."



Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
 (Christmas Day, 1863)

2

Isaiah 2:1-4:6

- move from the future, ideal Jerusalem (2:1-4) to the present, corrupt Jerusalem (2:5-4:1) to the future, purified Jerusalem (4:2-6)
- it provides the strongest of contrasts to highlight the present, dire condition of God's people, and yet, the certainty of God's promise
- 2:22 – stop regarding man as an object of trust – it leads only to dissolution, not glory

3

Human Folly and Divine Glory

1. Boys for Men – folly of trusting leaders (3:1-15)
 - a complete collapse of social order – leaders are removed and youths rule in their place
 - the root cause is the people's unabashed sin before the "eyes of His glory"
 - the Lord enters into judgment, especially against their oppressive leaders

4

Human Folly and Divine Glory

➤ Biblical (wisdom) maxim (3:10-11)

- Retributive justice – the reward of the righteous and the judgment of the wicked

5

Human Folly and Divine Glory

2. Shame for Glory – folly of human glory (3:16-4:1)
 - the ostentatious, outward appearance of these wealthy women issued from a proud heart (c.f. Prov. 31:30; 1 Pet. 3:3-4)
 - the Lord will strip away all human glory and leave them humiliated, shamed and repulsive

6

Human Folly and Divine Glory

- *Principle* – the result of self-exaltation and pride before the exalted Lord is humiliation and shame (cf. Is. 2:11)

7

Human Folly and Divine Glory

3. Glory and Beauty – Zion restored (4:2-6)

- the Messiah (“Branch”) will be beauty, glory, pride, and adornment for the remnant of Israel (cf. Jer. 23:5; 33:15; Zech. 3:8; 6:12)
- through His judgment, God will purify His people by a complete removal of sin (inward and outward)
- Mount Zion will be covered with God’s protecting presence, a shelter from all that is harmful

8

¹⁴ ...These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes.” (Revelation 7:14-17)

9