## ISAIAH: THE MESSAGE OF HOPE

Lesson 3 - Restoration of the Remnant John L. Kachelman, Jr Dalraida Church of Christ, Montgomery, AL

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| IN  | TRODUCTION   |
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| •   | A second aspect of Isaiah's message giving hope to struggling hearts is that God has a faithful "" and will continue to restore it to fulfill His promises.  |
| •   | The remnant concept encourages all faithful followers because it reminds us that purposes will not be destroyed. Those who follow God may feel isolated and alone, but there are others with the like and precious faith who struggle in this world as well!                     |
| TH  | IE REMNANT   |
| •   | God first made a promise to that "all the families of the earth will be blessed." (Gen. 12:3).   |
| •   | God would send forth a blessing for all people through Abraham's lineage. Throughout Israel's rise and fall, there was still from God's continual protective hand because He kept his promises.  |
| •   | The concept of a "remnant" being preserved was first mentioned by Moses as he talked to the Israelites. In, Moses clearly tells the nation that "the Lord will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations." (cf. Deuteronomy 28:62-68). |
| •   | The remnant of the faithful was preserved through God'scare throughout the years leading up to Christ's birth.   |
| IS/ | AIAH'S USE OF THE REMNANT  |
| 1.  | <b>Persistence in</b> The disastrous ruin comes to Judah because she has a stubborn practice of idolatry. This persistence in sin will decimate the population and only a small fraction would remain.   |
| 2.  | God is faithful in honoring The faithfulness of God honors His promise to Abraham concerning the coming of the Messiah. (Consider Isaiah's emphasis on the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants: 7:2,13; 9:6ff; 11:1ff; 22:22; 29:22; 41:8; 51:2; 55:3-5; 63:16).                     |
| 3.  | of Apostasy. The remnant will be the ones who cling to God when others forsake His will. The imagism in this phrase is so compelling that the apostle Paul makes use of it to identify the faithful of God's church (Rom. 9-11).   |
| ΑP  | PLICATION OF THE REMNANT   |
| •   | The concept has application to the "" Israel in New Testament Christianity - the Lord's Church. The Lord's Church will suffer decimation in her numbers as many depart faithfulness.   |

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their lives.

Lesson 3 – Restoration of the Remnant

| •  | As the Lord's Church struggles with false doctrine and teachers, many will fall away (1 Tim. 4:1ff; 2 Tim. 4:1ff) but there will always remain a "Remnant" dedicated to following God (Hebrews 12:28).   |
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| •  | This "Remnant" will exist throughout history and keep the Lord's Church present until Christ's Return. Those belonging to the "Remnant" are the only ones to be saved. This "Remnant" is composed of only those who are in the "" (Church).  |
| ID | ENTIFYING TRAITS OF GOD'S REMNANT  |
| 0  | They who are of God's Kingdom (2:2-4; 9:6-7; 11:11-16; 16:5; 25:6-9; 32:1-4; 56:7).  |
|    | The righteous "Remnant" of God have submitted to the rule of God in their lives and the reign of God in their hearts! These have humbled their pride and forsaken selfishness. These have bowed their hearts and bent their knees in contrition. These have fully surrendered to the commands of the Almighty God and consequently "live" to do the will of the Holy Father (Galatians 2:20). The righteous citizens share these qualities:  |
|    | 1) They are willing to obey God and control (2:2-4).   |
|    | 2) They are in reverence to the Holy Lord (9:6-7; 16:5; 56:7).   |
|    | 3) They are in the grace of the Lord (11:11-16; 32:1-4).   |
| 0  | They are called by God's (4:1-6; 43:7; 65:15).   |
|    | The great desire to be identified by an acceptable name is illustrated by the desperation of the women of Judah (4:2-6). Those who are not called by the Lord's Name are destined for retribution because they fail to recognize God's authority (63:15-19). Those who recognize and wear God's Name are blessed. Isaiah's prophecy of the "new name" (65:15) that God's followers will wear was fulfilled in Acts 11:26! God has specifically given His "name" and mankind MUST use this name if he is to be pleasing to God (1 Peter 4:11a).                       |
| €  | They are by God's Redemption (11:1-10).  |
|    | This originates because the "Remnant" has obeyed the Messiah's will and has found the comfort of forgiveness (40:2). Wonderful comfort is experienced by the "Remnant" because they trust in the righteous justice of the Almighty God (11:4-5). Those who are a part of the "Remnant" look to God for justice and strength (32:1-3). This is the comfort that sustains the hearts of Christians today when faced by injustices and maligned by evil (Romans 12:19-21). There is no room for the proud, arrogant, and self-dependence in the ranks of the "Remnant." |
| 4  | They are complemented by God's (28:5-7).   |
|    | The worldly look for strength and justice in "the proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim," (28:1). The godly "Remnant" look for strength in the reign and justice of the Almighty Lord God (28:5-7). "In that day" - the day when the wonderful news of salvation is proclaimed - those who trust and obey God will find that their obedience compliments   |

The prophetic word reminded the people that the faithful remnant would be preserved!