

# The Last Days of Human History

## Isaiah 66:01–24

### 1. *The true temple of God*

- a. The true temple identified
- 1) God dwells in heaven and earth
    - Because no building can contain the LORD
    - Because He is the Creator

- 2) God dwells with the person who is submissive and who trembles at His Word, | Jer 31:33; 32:40; Heb 8:10; see 1 Cor 3:16; 6:19-20

### b. The worshippers rejected

- 1) Those who walk their own way instead of obeying God's Word: Their worship is unacceptable
  - Is as the worship of murderers
  - Is as the worship of people who offer dogs or pigs to God
  - Is as the worship of people who idolize false gods
- 2) The rejected worshippers' fate: Their judgment is harsh
  - Because they did not respond to God's call for repentance
  - Because they deliberately did evil and engaged in false worship
  - Because they persecuted those who trembled at God's Word
- 3) The rejected worshippers' fate explained
  - Will be shamed

- 1 This is what the LORD says:  
 "Heaven is my throne,  
 and the earth is my footstool.  
 Where is the house you will build for me?  
 Where will my resting place be?"
- 2 Has not my hand made all these things,  
 and so they came into being?"  
 declares the LORD.  
 "These are the ones I look on with favour:  
 those who are humble and contrite in spirit,  
 and who tremble at my word.
- 3 But whoever sacrifices a bull is like  
 one who kills a person,  
 and whoever offers a lamb is like  
 one who breaks a dog's neck;  
 whoever makes a grain offering is like  
 one who presents pig's blood,  
 and whoever burns memorial incense is like  
 one who worships an idol.  
 They have chosen their own ways,  
 and they delight in their abominations;
- 4 so I also will choose harsh treatment for them  
 and will bring on them what they dread.  
 For when I called, no one answered,  
 when I spoke, no one listened.  
 They did evil in my sight  
 and chose what displeases me."
- 5 Hear the word of the LORD,  
 you who tremble at his word:  
 "Your own people who hate you,  
 and exclude you because of my name,  
 have said, 'Let the LORD be glorified,  
 that we may see your joy!'  
 Yet they will be put to shame.

- Will suffer God's vengeance: Jerusalem's fall to Babylon (586 B.C.); and to Rome (A.D. 70); 1:6-10

**2. *The restored Jerusalem:  
The restoration of the city  
and of the Jews, 54:1-17***

- a. The city and nation will be reborn
  - 1) Reborn quickly, suddenly — within a day:  
More quickly than a mother who gives birth before her labour pains begin
  - 2) Reborn by the guarantee of God — His Word and His promise: He Himself will restore Israel, 49:18-21; 54:1-3
- b. The restored Jerusalem will be a cause for rejoicing
  - 1) Because she will nourish, comfort and satisfy those who love her
  - 2) Because God will overflow Jerusalem with peace and prosperity: Make her the capital of the world
  - 3) Because her children will be provided and cared for by her
  - 4) Because God will comfort her children just as a mother comforts her child

- 6 Hear that uproar from the city,  
hear that noise from the temple!  
It is the sound of the LORD  
repaying his enemies all they deserve.
- 7 “Before she goes into labour,  
she gives birth;  
before the pains come upon her,  
she delivers a son.
- 8 Who has ever heard of such things?  
Who has ever seen things like this?  
Can a country be born in a day  
or a nation be brought forth in a moment?  
Yet no sooner is Zion in labour  
than she gives birth to her children.
- 9 Do I bring to the moment of birth  
and not give delivery?” says the LORD.  
“Do I close up the womb  
when I bring to delivery?” says your God.
- 10 “Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her,  
all you who love her;  
rejoice greatly with her,  
all you who mourn over her.
- 11 For you will nurse  
and be satisfied at her comforting breasts;  
you will drink deeply  
and delight in her overflowing abundance.”
- 12 For this is what the LORD says:  
“I will extend peace to her like a river,  
and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream;  
you will nurse and be carried on her arm  
and dandled on her knees.
- 13 As a mother comforts her child,  
so will I comfort you;  
and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.”

5) Because Jerusalem will stir joy  
and bring good health  
to God's people

**3. *The Day of the LORD,  
His terrifying judgment***

a. The LORD is coming  
in a storm of fire

1) To punish with the fury  
of His anger

2) To rebuke with flames of fire

b. The LORD is coming  
to execute judgment upon  
all people: Many will be slain

1) All who followed  
the abominable practices  
of idolatry and false worship:  
Will meet a terrible end

2) All who were guilty of evil  
works and thoughts:  
Will appear before the LORD  
and witness His glory

**4. *The proclamation  
of God's glory worldwide***

a. The LORD will set a sign  
before the world: The Second  
Coming of Christ?, Mat 24:30

b. The LORD will choose  
some Jews as ministers  
to share the message of God's  
glory with the world:  
Will become a great  
evangelistic force world

14 When you see this, your heart will rejoice  
and you will flourish like grass;  
the hand of the LORD will be made known  
to his servants,  
but his fury will be shown to his foes.

15 See, the LORD is coming with fire,  
and his chariots are like a whirlwind;  
he will bring down his anger with fury,  
and his rebuke with flames of fire.

16 For with fire and with his sword  
the LORD will execute judgment on all people,  
and many will be those slain by the LORD.

17 "Those who consecrate  
and purify themselves to go into the gardens,  
following one who is among those  
who eat the flesh of pigs,  
rats and other unclean things —  
they will meet their end together with the one  
they follow," declares the LORD.

18 "And I, because of what they have planned  
and done, am about to come and gather  
the people of all nations and languages,  
and they will come and see my glory.

19 "I will set a sign among them,  
and I will send some of those who survive  
to the nations — to Tarshish,  
to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers),  
to Tubal and Greece,  
and to the distant islands  
that have not heard of my fame  
or seen my glory.  
They will proclaim my glory  
among the nations.

<p>1) They will bring the Gentiles — their spiritual brothers — to worship in Jerusalem</p> <p>2) They will reap such a vast harvest of worshippers that every means of transportation available will have to be used</p> <p>c. The LORD will choose some Gentile believers to be His ministers</p> <p><b>5. <i>The gift of eternal life in the new heavens and earth</i></b></p> <p>a. God’s people will have names and descendants that endure eternally</p> <p>b. God’s people — the only humans alive at the end — will bow and worship the LORD: Regularly, month to month and Sabbath to Sabbath</p> <p><b>6. <i>The sad fate of the unrepentant</i></b></p> <p>a. They will be dead (separated from God) and punished eternally in an unquenchable fire</p> <p>b. They will have a disgusting, repulsive legacy</p>	<p>20 And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD — on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels,” says the LORD. “They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels.</p> <p>21 And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites,” says the LORD.</p> <p>22 “As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me,” declares the LORD, “so will your name and descendants endure.</p> <p>23 From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me,” says the LORD.</p> <p>24 “And they will go out and look on the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; the worms that eat them will not die, the fire that burns them will not be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind.”</p>
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