

## Isaiah 35 – The Vengeance and Recompense of our God

ISA 35:1 The wilderness and the desert will be glad, And the Arabah will rejoice and blossom; Like the crocus

**Wilderness** = any place where God's kingdom and His will are not yet established (government)

**Desert** = any place where Holy Spirit is not moving, where His presence and anointing are not being experienced (relationship)

**Arabah** = any place that is sterile or barren, where the seed of God's word cannot take root, where there is a great lack of resources needed to grow and thrive (abundant life)

**Glad** = a leaping and jumping for joy

**Rejoice** = to spin around and dance for joy

**Blossom** = to break forth as a bud, i.e. bloom; generally, to spread; specifically, to fly (as extending the wings); figuratively, to flourish

ISA 35:2 It will blossom profusely And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, The majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the Lord, The majesty of our God.

**Glory of Lebanon** = whiteness, snow capped mountain and cliffs. It is also a place of a great forest. Represents holiness and righteousness, and the abundant life. (2 Cor. 5:21; John 10:10)

**Majesty of Carmel** = magnificence, i.e. ornament or splendor:—beauty, excellency, glory, honor, majesty. (Psalm 84:1)

**Carmel** = "garden-land," a fruitful, plentiful place. Represents our transformation into the image of Christ, and our restoration back to Eden. (1 Cor. 15:45)

**Sharon** = a maritime plain on the Mediterranean, from Joppa northward, noted for fertility. Represents our purpose, destiny and creativity. (Genesis 1:28)

**See** = so as to learn to know and experience His glory and majesty, and thus be changed into all the above. (2 Cor. 3:18)

ISA 35:3 Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen the feeble.

Exhausted = hands

Feeble = knees

Literally: Make strong the weak hands; establish and confirm the stumbling knees.

Hands represent power, or our God given abilities to accomplish His will

Knees (legs) represent our ability to choose to consistently pursue the purpose and destiny He created us for

### Assists

An "assist" happens when we get the ball and immediately pass it on to someone else, who then successfully scores. In the body of Christ I believe this represents our constant need to give and receive encouragement to/from one another.

Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:13)

**We are about to receive a major upgrade in our ability to put others first:**

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; (Romans 12:10)

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; (Philippians 2:3)

Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves. Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification. (Romans 15:1-2)

Without a doubt one of the greatest failures of the body of Christ has been our lack of love for one another. Because of this, too much of the world remains unconvinced of the reality of His presence and Kingdom in our lives (John 13:35).

**Therefore we will see a baptism of His love released upon us, to radically conform our hearts to His.** Discipleship is a family affair, not solely the responsibility of titled leaders, so all of us need to get in the game of supporting and encouraging each other in our growth process.

**Response Vector:**

Ask the Lord to show you who you can immediately begin serving in this way. Also ask Him who you should invite into your personal inner circle to do likewise for you.

ISA 35:4 Say to those with anxious heart, "Take courage, fear not. Behold, your God will come with vengeance; The recompense of God will come, But He will save you."

**Anxious** = frantic, running around trying to fix problems or find answers

**Heart** = inner man, mind, will, heart, understanding

**Take courage** = be strong (Joshua 1:6-9)

**Vengeance** = the infliction of pain on another, in return for an injury or offense. Such infliction, when it proceeds from malice or more resentment, and is not necessary for the purposes of justice, is revenge, and a most heinous crime. When such infliction proceeds from a mere love of justice, and the necessity of punishing offenders for the support of the laws, it is vengeance and is warrantable and just. In this case, vengeance is a just retribution, recompense or punishment. In this latter sense the word is used in Scripture, and frequently applied to the punishments inflicted by God on sinners. (Webster's 1828 Dictionary)

NAH 1:2 ¶ A jealous and avenging God is the Lord; The Lord is avenging and wrathful. The Lord takes vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies.

ROM 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.

**Recompense** = the action or work of God to compensate or make return of an equivalent for anything given, done or suffered.

ISA 34:8 For the Lord has a day of vengeance, A year of recompense for the cause of Zion.

ISA 40:10 Behold, the Lord God will come with might, With His arm ruling for Him. Behold, His reward is with Him And His recompense before Him.

Isaiah 61, especially:

ISA 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners;

ISA 61:2 To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord And the day of vengeance of our God;

PRO 6:30 Men do not despise a thief if he steals To satisfy himself when he is hungry;

PRO 6:31 But when he is found, he must repay sevenfold; He must give all the substance of his house.

JOH 10:10 "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

1JO 3:8b The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

JOH 12:31 "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

2CO 1:8 ¶ For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life; 2CO 1:9 indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;

2CO 1:10 who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,

2CO 1:11 you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.

2CO 2:14 ¶ But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.

2CO 2:15 For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;

**Save** = deliver, rescue (properly give width and breadth to, liberate)

Greek *sozo* = to save, i.e. deliver or protect (literally or figuratively):—heal, preserve, save (self), do well, be (make) whole.

ISA 35:5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.

ISA 35:6 Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy. For waters will break forth in the wilderness And streams in the Arabah.

ISA 35:7 The scorched land will become a pool And the thirsty ground springs of water; In the haunt of jackals, its resting place, Grass becomes reeds and rushes.

Eye = physical, mental, spiritual. Also a spring or fountain. (Vision and hope)

Blind = physical, helpless, ignorant, slow to understand

Ears = physical, mental, spiritual. (intimate communion)

Unstopped = opened, set free, be loosed

Lame = handicapped, loss of full function, inability (faith to obey and do His will)

Tongue = physical, mental, spiritual (prophetic function, new creation personality)

Mute = unable to speak or speak well

Shout = cry aloud, vibrate from the wind. (Freedom to be you, who He created you to be)

Wilderness = mouth, uninhabited land (to establish and expand His presence and kingdom)

Break forth = to split, break open, divide, break through, rip up, break up, tear (destroy the gates of hell and the works of the enemy)

Scorched land = burning heat that produces a mirage (to expose the lies and deceptions of the enemy)

Jackals = dragon or dinosaur, sea or river monster, serpent, venomous snake

Reeds = from a root word meaning to get, acquire, create, buy, possess. Represents a measuring rod

Rushes = a paper reed from which papyrus is made. Represents the declaration and establishment of God's word

ISA 35:8 A highway will be there, a roadway, And it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, But it will be for him who walks that way, And fools will not wander on it.

Highway = literally a road that has been raised up above the rest of the land, so as to avoid the ups and downs that would make progress much more slow and difficult.

Roadway = a way of life, lifestyle

Holiness = to be set apart, sacred, consecrated

Highway of Holiness = a lifestyle marked by the qualities of holiness

Walks that way = a lifestyle marked by purpose and destiny

ISA 35:9 No lion will be there, Nor will any vicious beast go up on it; These will not be found there. But the redeemed will walk there,

Lion = 1PE 5:8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. There is a place in Christ where the enemy cannot reach us.

Vicious beast = literally a violent one, robber, murderer. We are His Ekklesia, authorized to break through the gates of hell and establish His Kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven. As it was in the Garden of Eden, so shall it be wherever we enforce His word and will.

Redeemed = bought back out of slavery by our kinsman-redeemer

Walk = living the redeemed life, demonstrating the reality of the Kingdom

ISA 35:10 And the ransomed of the Lord will return And come with joyful shouting to Zion, With everlasting joy upon their heads. They will find gladness and joy, And sorrow and sighing will flee away.

There is coming a day when Papa's kids will truly know the fullness of the abundant life that is found in their oneness with Christ.