

Isa 60:10-22
May 29, 2022

A song of triumph in Zion Isa 60:1-22

This is rather a detached poem than an integral portion of a book. It is complete in itself, and but slightly connected, either with what precedes or with what follows.

It is composed of five stanzas, of nearly equal length:

- (1) vs. 1-4; Zion's brightness
- (2) vs. 5-9; Zion's wealth
- (3) vs. 10-14; Zion's reconstruction
- (4) vs. 15-18; Zion's prosperity
- (5) vs. 19-22. Zion's crowning glories

Zion's reconstruction Isa 60:10-14

10 "Foreigners will build up your walls, And their kings will minister to you; For in My wrath I struck you, And in My favor I have had compassion on you. 11 "Your gates will be open continually; They will not be closed day or night, So that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations, With their kings led in procession. 12 "For the nation and the kingdom which will not serve you will perish, And the nations will be utterly ruined. 13 "The glory of Lebanon will come to you, The juniper, the box tree and the cypress together, To beautify the place of My sanctuary; And I shall make the place of My feet glorious. 14 "The sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you, And all those who despised you will bow themselves at the soles of your feet; And they will call you the city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

The promises made to the church in the foregoing verses are here repeated, ratified, and enlarged upon, designed still for the comfort and encouragement of the Jews after their return out of captivity, but certainly looking further, to the enlargement and advancement of the gospel church and the abundance of spiritual blessings with which it shall be enriched. (Matthew Henry's commentary)

The subject of this chapter is the great increase and flourishing state of the church of God, by the conversion and accession of the heathen nations to it; which is set forth in such ample and exalted terms, as plainly show that the full completion of this prophecy is reserved for future times. This subject is displayed in the most splendid colors, under a great variety of images highly poetical, designed to give a general idea of the glories of that perfect state of the church of God, which we are taught to expect in the latter times; when the fullness of the Gentiles shall come in, and the Jews shall be converted and gathered from their dispersions,

Rom 11:25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; and the "kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ." (Rev 11:15)

"Foreigners will build up your walls"

The passage has, however, a meaning beyond the literal one. "Strangers" of all kinds, Greeks, and Romans, and Syrians, and Africans, and Gauls, and Spaniards, and others, assisted in building and enlarging the walls of the Church as it spread over the world, set up its walls in the Creeds, and fenced it roundabout with various decrees and canons. (Spence-Jones Commentary)

"Your gates will be open continually; They will not be closed day or night"

Rom 10:13 for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

Ac 10:34-35 Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, 35 but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.

“the soles of your feet”

God called the temple His sanctuary and the place of His feet (Ps 99:5; 132:7; Ezk 43:7).

“they will call you the city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.”

Heb 12:22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, ...

Ps 87:3 Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God.

Zion’s prosperity Isa 60:15-18

15 “Whereas you have been forsaken and hated With no one passing through, I will make you an everlasting pride, A joy from generation to generation.

Zion is no longer “forsaken and hated.”

Zion is pictured as - a wife - forsaken and hated by her husband for her adulteries.

Zion is pictured as - a city - where no one wants to live, visit or pass-through.

God will make Zion an everlasting pride and joy. Shame and sadness are removed with pride and joy.

16a “You will also suck the milk of nations And suck the breast of kings;

“suck the milk of nations And suck the breast of kings”

Ancient Near Eastern imagery frequently depicted kings or gods suckling the breast of a goddess.

The motif has been found in Egyptian, Assyrian, Hittite, Canaanite, and Syro-Phoenician sources.

Isa 49:23 describes Israel being nursed by queens. The nursing imagery reflects how Israel will receive the best of what all the nations have to offer. (Faithlife Study Bible)

16b Then you will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior And your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

“you will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”

This is fulfilled in Jesus:

Promise of the new covenant is “all will know Me, from the least to the greatest (Heb 8:11).

Jesus is called “the Lord” 322 times from Rom – Jude.

Savior = the definition of the name of Jesus is “Jehovah is salvation.”

Jesus is called Savior 29 times in NT (Ti 1:4; Isa 45:21).

Redeemer = 1Cor 1:30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, (Rom 3:24; Eph 1:7; Col 1:14)

17a “Instead of bronze I will bring gold, And instead of iron I will bring silver, And instead of wood, bronze, And instead of stones, iron.

Instead of bronze	I will bring gold	The general idea here is that Zion will be resplendent and wealthy as in the glorious age of Solomon (1Ki 10:21, 27). The material splendor is typical of spiritual glories and excellences. (Spence & Jones)
Iron	Silver	
Wood	Bronze	
Stones	Iron	

17b And I will make peace your administrators And righteousness your overseers.

Peace” and “righteousness” are personified; that they shall rule in the redeemed community.

18 "Violence will not be heard again in your land, Nor devastation or destruction within your borders; But you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise.

When the Lord reigns in our lives there is no longer any violence, devastation or destruction.

"Walls and gates"

Eph 2:19-22 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

"walls - salvation"

"gates - praise"

Zion's crowning glories (Isa 60:19-22)

The Lord will be the light in Zion

19 "No longer will you have the sun for light by day, Nor for brightness will the moon give you light; But you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, And your God for your glory. 20 "Your sun will no longer set, Nor will your moon wane; For you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, And the days of your mourning will be over.

The new Jerusalem will not have need of the sun or moon for the glory of the Lord will be its light.

Rev 21:23-25 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, ... In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;

"The days of your mourning will be over."

Till the new Jerusalem descends from heaven (Rev. 21:2), and Christ reigns personally over his people (Rev. 22:5), the Church is always in a state of mourning. The Bridegroom is away (Mt 9:15); his light shines upon His Church only in glimpses; His Church feels itself unworthy of Him - cold, unloving, stained with sin. Fasting, weeping, and mourning is fitting in such a state of things. But in the final condition of the redeemed their mourning shall be ended, "sorrow and sighing shall have fled away" (Isa 35:10); God shall "wiped away all tears from their eyes" (Rev 21:4); "There shall be no more death" (Rev 21:4); "no more curse" (Rev 22:3); "neither sorrow, nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Rev 21:4). The days of mourning shall be ended. (Spence-Jones Commentary)

21 "Then all your people will be righteous; They will possess the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified. 22 "The smallest one will become a clan, And the least one a mighty nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time."

All the people of Zion will be righteous.

They will possess the land (promises of God) forever.

They will bring glory to God.