

Pentwater Bible Church

Isaiah Message 136

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Pentwater Bible Church

The Book of Isaiah

One-Hundred-Thirty-Six

Divine Judgment on The Earth

November 14, 2021

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Isaiah 63:1–6

¹Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, marching in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. ²Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winevat? ³I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the peoples there was no man with me: yea, I trod them in mine anger, and trampled them in my wrath; and their lifeblood is sprinkled upon my garments, and I have stained all my raiment. ⁴For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. ⁵And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my wrath, it upheld me. ⁶And I trod down the peoples in mine anger, and made them drunk in my wrath, and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth (ASV, 1901).

The text starts with Isaiah receiving a clear prophetic revelation. Within this text there is a question Isaiah is asking regarding the person in this prophecy that he is seeing. He does not quite understand the full implication of what he is allowed to see so he asks, *Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, marching in the greatness of his strength?*

BOZRAH

Bozrah is the place where the Lord Jesus told His Jewish believers that when one of their future generations that sees the Abomination of Desolation must flee to during the Tribulation. It will be a refuge for them as the city of Jerusalem falls and is surrounded in a siege by the armies of the Antichrist. There are going to be thousands or perhaps tens of thousands of believing Jews who are warned to flee from Jerusalem. Those Jews in Israel who have come to know Jesus personally during the first half of the tribulation will be responsive and it is to this believing remnant that Jesus makes His appeal.

Today Bozrah is now the ancient city of Petra in Southern Jordan.

Luke 21:20–22

²⁰And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. ²¹Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. ²²For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled (KJV).

Matthew 24:15-25

¹⁵ When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) ¹⁶ then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains (KJV).

When the Abomination of Desolation occurs, it will signal the soon return of the Messiah, namely only 3 1/2 years later. This event is when the False Prophet makes a puppet like image of the Antichrist, places it in the Holy of Holies in the Tribulation Temple and Satan makes it come alive. It will be exactly 1,260 days from the Abomination of Desolation until the Second Coming. However, before the Lord returns and ushers in His Messianic Kingdom there will be Tribulation such as the world has never before seen. The Jews who will get saved during the Tribulation are here instructed

Isaiah 26:20-21

²⁰ Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. ²¹ For, behold, Jehovah cometh forth out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain (ASV, 1901).

Deliverance from the Great Tribulation and its fearful punishment will be near for the beleaguered remnant (Revelation 12:13—13:18-19:11 —20:3). The Lord will soon take His judgment on the ungodly (the seal, trumpet, and vial judgments of Revelation 6:1-17; 8:1—9:21 10:15-19; 16:1-21). Closing their doors behind them, God's people will be told to await the issue calmly and confidently. Jesus warns the Jewish dwellers in Judea that when they see the "Abomination of Desolation" - a desecrating idol installed in the Holy of Holies of the Temple - to flee to the mountains. The remnant of Israel will find refuge there for three and a half years while God protects them and provides for them (Matthew 24:22, 24, 31). This passage is saying that the moment the Jewish Remnant, the elect, sees the event of the abomination of desolation they are to flee to the Judean hills. The Beast (antichrist) and the False Prophet will be setting up the abomination of desolation in the rebuilt Jewish Temple, The Antichrist goes from protecting Israel to persecuting her. Therefore, the sooner that the Remnant can get out, the less likely it will be that they will be persecuted. Then according to the Lord's provision, they will be able to flee instantly because they will be miraculously provided for and protected as they make their way to Petra for three and a half years of safekeeping. Their safety is dependent on how they respond to Jesus' warning.

The Lord Jesus will have prepared it for them in advance.

PETRA - THE PREPARED PLACE

Deuteronomy 2:10-12

¹⁰The Emim dwelt therein aforetime, a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakim: ¹¹these also are accounted Rephaim, as the Anakim; but the Moabites call them Emim. ¹²The Horites also dwelt in Seir aforetime, but the children of Esau succeeded them; and they destroyed them from before them, and dwelt in their stead; as Israel did unto the land of his possession, which Jehovah gave unto them (ASV, 1901).

Edom's long-standing enmity against Israel ultimately brought God's judgment on Edom. Obadiah the prophet devotes his short but potent message to the judgment of Edom, telling us of her pride and arrogance and the reasons for God's final judgment on these people. Amos, the shepherd of Tekoa, wrote of impending judgment on Edom:

Amos 1:11-12

¹¹Thus saith Jehovah: For three transgressions of Edom, yea, for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever. ¹²But I will send a fire upon Teman, and it shall devour the palaces of Bozrah (ASV, 1901).

Several writers have written fine descriptions of Petra and the history of that region of ancient Edom. The Nabateans displaced the descendants of Esau probably in the 6th Century BC. They controlled the entire region as far North as Damascus until the First Century. They settled the area of Ovdad in the Israeli desert, the Negev. The Greeks and Romans built extensively in Jordan and the area around Bozrah or Petra was well populated as late as Roman times.

Petra was the capital city of the Nabateans. Tourists to this vast mountain-enclosed ancient city in the Wadi Musa generally enter from the east on foot or on horseback through El Siq, a 6000 feet long narrow cleft (width: 12-30 feet) with 100-500 foot high cliff walls. Tombs and houses carved into the bed-rock over a vast area at Petra would be suitable for temporarily housing many thousands of people. Mt. Hor is nearby, where Aaron died after Moses passed the high priestly garments of Aaron on to Eliezer in the sight of the congregation (Numbers 20:23-29). An Islamic shrine marks the probable tomb site.



<https://visitpetra.jo/Pages/viewpage.aspx?pageID=124>

NOT TO BE CONQUERED BY ANTICHRIST

The route of escape for the Jewish believing remnant from Antichrist's military pursuit as he seeks to annihilate them, has been made ready by the Lord. This area will not be invaded by the Antichrist as the Lord stated to the prophet Daniel.

Daniel 11:41

⁴¹He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall be delivered out of his hand: Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon (ASV, 1901).

THE HIDING PLACE

Southern Jordan is given special protection during the last great invasion of Israel. The text makes reference to Jordan using the ancient names of *Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon*. This region will in fact be singled out to not be affected by the Tribulation which will in fact devastate the earth. Isaiah the Prophet instructs the believing remnant of Israel to find a safe hiding place during the time of Jacob's trouble when God's judgment will fall on the whole earth,

During the second half of the tribulation period there will be no safe place to hide anywhere on the earth except in the refuge God has provided at Petra. Since Petra meets the qualifications of the place prepared in advance, we see that Petra is the O.T Bozrah.

Edom; where the sword strikes, and the sacrifice in Bozrah.

Micah 2:12-13

¹²I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as a flock in the midst of their pasture; they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. ¹³The breaker is gone up before them: they have broken forth and passed on to the gate, and are gone out thereat; and their king is passed on before them, and Jehovah at the head of them (ASV, 1901).

In Micah Chapter 2 the Jews are described as fleeing the land and we have the clues as to where they go from Matthew 24:15-16 and Revelation 12:6. There are three clues,

- 1) It is into the mountains,
- 2) It is in the wilderness; and
- 3) It is a place prepared in advance.

Micah 2 tells us it is Bozrah, or Greek Petra in present day Jordan. The region of Southern Jordan was called Edom, near Ammon and Moab. There is only one way in and it is a wadi or gorge about 1.25 miles long. There is water and good grazing land there and presently nobody lives there. A

Roman amphitheater there can seat 3000 or so. So, Antichrist's plan to destroy the Jews will not occur. This is because Jesus prepared a place and they flee to Petra or Bozrah for safety.

The figure approaching Isaiah in his prophetic vision is coming from the land of Edom and from the city of Bozrah. His features are reflecting His glory, and there is greatness in His strength. There can be little doubt that this figure arrayed with the Shechinah Glory is the Jewish Messiah Jesus Himself.

Jesus Identifies Himself to Isaiah when He responds to Isaiah's question. He says, "*I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.*" There is only one person who has ever been righteous and can save mankind that is our Messiah the Lord Jesus. Who is this from Edom? This is a rhetorical question. The answer of course is Jesus!

The fighting starts at Bozrah and moves to Jerusalem where it ends at the Valley of Jehosaphat. When the fighting is over the Bible describes that blood has reached a depth of up to the horse's bridles in the valley (Joel 3:12-13 and Revelation 14:17-20). This is about 5-6 feet deep. Isaiah sees Jesus coming from Bozrah with blood-stained clothes after defeating the Antichrist's allied army and travelling to Jerusalem for the final battle and His victory of The Second Coming. Isaiah asks Him how it came to be that His garments were stained with blood.

Isaiah 63:2-4

²Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winevat? ³I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the peoples there was no man with me: yea, I trod them in mine anger, and trampled them in my wrath; and their lifeblood is sprinkled upon my garments, and I have stained all my raiment. ⁴For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year of my redeemed is come (ASV, 1901).

The staining with blood was caused by a battle fought in the land of Edom and the city of Bozrah. He fought against the nations in their siege against the city alone. In the course of trampling the nations, their lifeblood sprinkled on His garments, staining them red. The fight was necessary in order for Him to save His redeemed people, Israel. He fought all alone and there were none to help Him.

The main point to learn from this passage is that the battle is initiated in the land of Edom and at the city of Bozrah. By the time Messiah reaches Jerusalem, His garments are already stained with blood from the slaughter of the enemy.

Another Scripture that places His initial return in this area is in Habakkuk.

Habakkuk 3:3

³God came from Teman, And the Holy One from mount Paran. His glory covered the heavens, And the earth was full of his praise (ASV, 1901).

Temán and Mount Paran are both in the vicinity of Bozrah and are located in the same mountain range of Mount Seir. The context is obviously speaking of the Second Coming, and that event in the same area.

All these passages clearly pinpoint the *place* of the Second Coming as being in the land of Edom and at the city of Bozrah. This correlates with where the Remnant of Israel will be located in the last days. The Remnant of Israel gathered in Bozrah and the Second Coming are linked together in another passage, in the prophet Micah's book.

Micah 2:12–13

¹²I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as a flock in the midst of their pasture; they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. ¹³The breaker is gone up before them: they have broken forth and passed on to the gate, and are gone out thereat; and their king is passed on before them, and Jehovah at the head of them (ASV, 1901).

The Remnant of Israel will be gathered in Bozrah where they will be besieged by the forces of the Antichrist. They are finally able to break the siege, because Jehovah the King is leading them. The *breaker*, the *king*, and *Jehovah* are all the same Person in this verse. Initially at the Second Coming, the Messiah will enter into battle with the forces of the Antichrist which have gathered at this city.

THE MANNER OF THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

Having identified the *place* of the Second Coming, it is important to look at the Scriptures dealing with the *manner* of the Second Coming, and the final battle between Jesus and the Antichrist. It has already been gleaned from Isaiah 63:2–6 that when He fights, Messiah will fight alone and no others will participate in the battle.

The manner of the Second Coming is described in Matthew as being with the clouds of Heaven.

Matthew 24:30

³⁰ And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory (KJV).

Throughout the Old Testament, clouds and the *Shechinah* Glory are interrelated. In this New Testament passage, that can be seen again. He will return in the same manner as He left.

Acts 1:9–11

⁹ And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; ¹¹ Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up

from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven (KJV).

The angels did not prophesy that Jesus would return to the same *place*, but rather in the same *manner* in which He had left. Jesus left in the clouds of Heaven and, according to Matthew 24:30, He will return to earth in the clouds of Heaven.

Revelation 19:11–16

¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. ¹² His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. ¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipt in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF (KJV).

At the Second Coming Christ will come with the wrath of God riding upon a cherub which will have horse-like features according to Revelation 19:11. There will be convulsions throughout nature at His return while the entire world is illuminated by His brightness. Jesus will return at the request of Israel and enter into a battle with the Antichrist and his armies.

Matthew 23:37–39

³⁷ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not? ³⁸ Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. ³⁹ For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord (KJV).

He will return to the Remnant in Bozrah. With His return he will save the tents (the poor people) of Judah first before saving the Jews of Jerusalem as God said through the prophet Zechariah.

Zechariah 12:7

⁷ Jehovah also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem be not magnified above Judah (ASV, 1901).

The apostle John's description of the Second Coming, begins by describing Messiah as the Judge. It is quite similar with the descriptions found in the first chapter of Revelation. The war He engages in against the nations is a result of judgment by Him Who is *Faithful and True*. He wears on His head the *diadem* crowns, indicating His natural royalty. His garments are stained with blood, just as in Isaiah 63:1–6, he saw. This is the Second Coming of the Judge and the incarnate Word of

God, Jesus returning in righteousness to judge the nations. When He returns, Messiah will be followed by *armies*. The word is in the plural number, meaning that at least two separate armies will return with Him. One army is known as *hosts of the Lord*, or the angelic army.

Matthew 16:27

²⁷For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then shall he render unto every man according to his works (KJV).

Another army that will return with Jesus is the army of the Church saints who had been raptured previously, before the Tribulation. This revelation was given to Enoch the 7th person after Adam.

Jude 14–15

¹⁴ And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵ to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him (KJV).

However, Isaiah 63:1–6 made it clear that although the armies of saints and angels will return with Him, they will not be part of the battle only observers if anything. Messiah will fight this battle by Himself. After describing Jesus in His role as Judge and the armies that return with Him, John next describes Jesus in His next earthly office of King. After judging the nations as righteous Judge, He is to rule as King, with a rod of iron. These nations will gather and attempt to destroy the Jews in order to abolish God's rule over them.

Psalm 2:1–6

¹Why do the nations rage, And the peoples meditate a vain thing? ²The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against Jehovah, and against his anointed, saying, ³Let us break their bonds asunder, And cast away their cords from us. ⁴He that sitteth in the heavens will laugh: The Lord will have them in derision. ⁵Then will he speak unto them in his wrath, And vex them in his sore displeasure: ⁶Yet I have set my king Upon my holy hill of Zion (ASV, 1901)

However, they will partake of the wrath of God at the Second Coming and He will rule over them. At this point in time Jesus will indeed be the *King of Kings* and *Lord of Lords*.

Because of the massive slaughter of all the armies of the nations, another invitation is given. This one invites the birds of the heavens to the great supper of God.

¹⁷ And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; ¹⁸ That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great (KJV).

The birds will eat the unburied carcasses of many who participated in the last battle. In this way, the birds will be filled and satisfied.

Revelation 19:21

²¹ And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh (KJV).

Next message: ISAIAH'S CONCERN FOR HIS PEOPLE

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