

# The United States and Isaiah 26

January 7, 2021

## The City of the Righteous and the City of the Proud

Isaiah 26:1-7 ESV

1 In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: "We have a strong city; He sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks.

2 Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

3 You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

4 Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock.

5 For He has humbled the inhabitants of the height, the lofty city. He lays it low, lays it low to the ground, casts it to the dust.

*Isaiah 26:5 NASB "For He has brought low those who dwell on high, the unassailable city; He lays it low, He lays it low to the ground, He casts it to the dust."*

6 The foot tramples it, the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy."

7 The path of the righteous is level; you make level the way of the righteous.

Isaiah 2:11-12 ESV

11 The haughty looks of man shall be brought low, and the lofty pride of men shall be humbled, and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.

12 For the LORD of hosts has a day against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up--and it shall be brought low.

Isaiah 13:6 ESV

6 Wail, for the day of the LORD is near; as destruction from the Almighty it will come!

Isaiah 13:7 ESV

7 Therefore all hands will be feeble, and every human heart will melt.

Isaiah 13:11 ESV

11 I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant, and lay low the pompous pride of the ruthless.

"Worldometer, which observes statistics on diverse topics, made the findings...that over 46 million babies were aborted in 2020 around the globe."

"In comparison to other findings worldwide in 2020, over 13 million people died from communicable diseases. Roughly 8.2 million people passed away from cancer, whereas almost 5.1 million people and 2.5 million people died due to smoking and alcohol, respectively."

*"Among other findings last year, almost 1.4 million people were killed in road traffic fatalities while nearly 1.1 million people worldwide committed suicide."*

<https://www.christianheadlines.com/contributors/milton-quintanilla/more-than-42-6-million-abortions-were-performed-worldwide-in-2020.html>

## The Righteous Long For God's Judgments

Isaiah 26:8-9 ESV

**8 In the path of your judgments, O LORD, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul.**

**9 My soul yearns for you in the night; my spirit within me earnestly seeks you. For when your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.**

2 Peter 3:10-14 ESV

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,

12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

14 Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

Revelation 21:1-4 ESV

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Romans 8:22-23 ESV

22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

## God's People Are Not To Blame

Isaiah 26:10-11 ESV

**10 If favor is shown to the wicked, he does not learn righteousness; in the land of uprightness he deals corruptly and does not see the majesty of the LORD.**

**11 O LORD, your hand is lifted up, but they do not see it. Let them see your zeal for your people, and be ashamed. Let the fire for your adversaries consume them.**

Isaiah 26:16-18 ESV

**16 O LORD, in distress they sought you; they poured out a whispered prayer when your discipline was upon them.**

**17 Like a pregnant woman who writhes and cries out in her pangs when she is near to giving birth, so were we because of you, O LORD;**

**18 we were pregnant, we writhed, but we have given birth to wind. We have accomplished no deliverance in the earth, and the inhabitants of the world have not fallen.**

*Mark 6:5-6 ESV*

*5 And he [Jesus] could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them.*

*6 And he marveled because of their unbelief.*

*Matthew 7:13-14 ESV*

*13 Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.*

*14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.*

*Romans 1:19-20 ESV*

*19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.*

*20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*

## God Is Our Life, Not Any Man

- When we depart from this life, in just a very few short years, we will no longer be "Americans," but we will always belong to God

Isaiah 26:12-15 ESV

**12 O LORD, you will ordain peace for us, for you have indeed done for us all our works.**

**13 O LORD our God, other lords besides you have ruled over us, but your name alone we bring to remembrance.**

**14 They are dead, they will not live; they are shades, they will not arise; to that end you have visited them with destruction and wiped out all remembrance of them.**

**15 But you have increased the nation, O LORD, you have increased the nation; you are glorified; you have enlarged all the borders of the land.**

*Psalm 146:3-5 ESV*

*3 Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.*

*4 When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.*

*5 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God.*

*6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;*

*7 who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;*

*8 the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.*

*9 The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.*

*10 The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!*

## **Judgment Is Coming!**

**Isaiah 26:19 ESV**

**19 Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead.**

**20 Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while until the fury has passed by.**

**21 For behold, the LORD is coming out from his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity, and the earth will disclose the blood shed on it, and will no more cover its slain.**

*Psalm 91:7-10 ESV*

*7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.*

*8 You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.*

*9 Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place-- the Most High, who is my refuge--*

*10 no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.*