

Exegetical Notes - Isaiah 65:17-25

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Isaiah 65:17-25

(When Jesus rose from the dead, ALL things changed. The plan of God for the salvation of humanity involved the plan of God to “make all things new.” In God’s time, everything will change and be restored to the order He intended. All things will be set free from their bondage to sin. The Book of Revelation tells us how this restoration will occur. But that time is foreshadowed in this passage from the book of Isaiah. Here, the prophet speaks of the Millennial Kingdom of God. Before the Kingdom of God comes, Jesus will reign over the earth. This passage describes that reign and the change it will bring to all creation.)

Verses 17-18

¹⁷ ***“See, I will create***

new heavens and a new earth.

The former things will not be remembered,

nor will they come to mind.

¹⁸ ***But be glad and rejoice forever***

in what I will create,

for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight

and its people a joy.

- “I will create.” This phrase shows us that what is described here is yet to be done. It is a future event (see Revelation 21).
- The operative, the creator, is YHWH. God will act alone, as He did when He first created the heavens and the earth, to restore them to their proper order.
- “The former things,” refers to the time in which we live now and before. It is a reference to the time when sin dominated the order of creation and threw everything out of balance. When Jesus died and rose again, the time of Satan’s rule ended. And God will bring all things under His control in His

time. When that happens, all the stuff caused by sin will be forgotten. These days in which we now live will not come to mind.

- God, the Creator, calls us to rejoice in what He “WILL” do. This time is not now, but it will come by the will of God.

Verses 19-20

¹⁹ *I will rejoice over Jerusalem
and take delight in my people;
the sound of weeping and of crying
will be heard in it no more.*

²⁰ *“Never again will there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days,
or an old man who does not live out his years;
the one who dies at a hundred
will be thought a mere child;
the one who fails to reach a hundred
will be considered accursed.*

- At that time, Jerusalem will be the center of the universe. Instead of persecution and political adversity, Jerusalem will be a place of peace and joy.
- Longevity will be the norm. Death is the result of sin. When sin is removed from its place, death will disappear, too. It is important to remember that the Prophet is describing the Millennial Kingdom, the thousand-year rule of Christ, which precedes the coming of THE Kingdom. So, death is not completely destroyed. However, the absence of sin means that people live longer.

Verses 21-23

²¹ *They will build houses and dwell in them;
they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.*

²² *No longer will they build houses and others live in them,
or plant and others eat.*

*For as the days of a tree,
so will be the days of my people;
my chosen ones will long enjoy
the work of their hands.*

²³ *They will not labor in vain,*

***nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune;
for they will be a people blessed by the LORD,
they and their descendants with them.***

- Sin causes people to wage war and to live in competition with each other. When sin's effect/affect is limited, war and competition between people and nations will cease. People will live in peace with each other. Peace and security will prevail.

Verses 24-25

***²⁴ Before they call I will answer;
while they are still speaking I will hear.***

***²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will feed together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox,
and dust will be the serpent's food.***

***They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,"***

says the LORD.

- God will grant His people what they need before they even request it of Him.
- The order of nature will be reversed. Plants and animals will not compete with each other for dominance.

(While this promise is not yet fulfilled, its certainty was assured when Jesus rose and defeated sin. Today, we await the coming of the Millennial Kingdom of God. Come Lord Jesus! Come!)

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