

Isaiah Chapter 4

Isaiah 4:1 "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach."

“Seven women ... one man”. In the day of reckoning, or the day of the Lord, He will judge wicked women indirectly by allowing a slaughtering of males, thereby producing a shortage of husbands.

This verse serves as a summary of the proceeding chapter. As a result of the coming devastation of the land, seven women shall take hold on one man, meaning that the male population will be so devastated that there will be seven women for every surviving male.

We must remember that it was thought to be a curse from God, if a woman was barren. It appears, in the verse above, that there are so few men that seven women want to wed one man, to be able to have his name, and perhaps, his child.

They are certainly aware that one man cannot afford to take care of seven families, so they offer to support themselves just to be able to use his name. War takes a great toll upon the men.

The branch of the Lord is the Messiah Himself. This same title is used (in Jeremiah 23:5, 33:15 and Zechariah 3:8 and 6:12). Thus, in the midst of his warning of judgment, Isaiah reveals a glorious promise of the future hope of the coming of the Messiah.

He sees ahead to the millennial kingdom when once again the cloud of glory shall rule them by day and the pillar of fire shall lead them by night. The phrase for upon all the glory shall be a defense should read: “the glory shall be spread over them as a canopy of protection.”

The third picture of Zion resembles the first (2:1-5): an eventual purification and prosperity in the Land.

Isaiah 4:2 "In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth [shall be] excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel."

Sometimes when the Branch is mentioned, it symbolically means the Lord Jesus. The Messianic title “Branch” occurs also (in Jer. 23:5; 33:15; Zech. 3:8 and 6:12). The thought behind the title relates to (2 Sam. 23:5), that of growth. The life of the Branch will bear spiritual fruit.

Notice that the fruit that grows is for the branch. We see those who have escaped (remnant), as those who are believers in Christ (Christians).

Isaiah 4:3 "And it shall come to pass, [that he that is] left in Zion, and [he that] remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, [even] every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem:"

Holy or set apart is another way of describing the remnant who will inherit God's prosperity in that day (1:9, 27; and 3:10).

This "living" could easily be those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. They inherit eternal life. Christians are righteous, because we have taken on the righteousness of Christ.

This "holy" could be speaking in the sight of the LORD. All who put their faith in the LORD and live for Him are holy, because He has made us holy. Notice also, that there is an "and" between Jerusalem and Zion in the verse above.

The 144,000, spared by being sealed with the Father's mark, are physical Israel. They are the remnant of the Father. Christians are spiritual Israel. We are heirs with Abraham, because of our faith. Jesus will reign 1000 years from Jerusalem.

Isaiah 4:4 "When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning."

"The daughters of Zion" could be speaking of the bride of Christ. We are made holy by the washing of the water of Jesus' shed blood.

Revelation 1:5 "And from Jesus Christ, [who is] the faithful witness, [and] the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,"

Jesus Christ is the Judge of all the earth. God is also, a consuming fire. The fire is for purification purposes.

For other instances of purging by burning (see 1:25 and 6:6-7).

Isaiah 4:5 "And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory [shall be] a defense."

Defense ... refuse (in verses 5-6). The future inhabitants of Jerusalem will enjoy the Lord's protective covering over the glory on Mt. Zion. This recalls Ezekiel's prophecy of the return of the Shekinah to the temple (Ezekiel 43:2-5).

God's dwelling place is with the Christian.

2 Corinthians 5:1 "For we know that if our earthly house of [this] tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Revelation 21:3 "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God."

LORD (in verse 5 above), means the fullness of the Godhead. This is the name for the eternally existing One. Mount Zion is the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. The LORD protects the church with a cloud, and smoke by day and a flaming fire by night.

"Assemblies" shows you that this is the congregation of the church. He is our Defense. He builds a hedge of protection around His followers. His blood protects us from the enemy. God's glory is manifest in His church. The pillar of fire by night, and the smoke by day, symbolized the presence of God.

Isaiah 4:6 "And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain."

This is divine protection from the storms of life, whether physical, or spiritual. We can see the protection the church has from the LORD.

Isaiah Chapter 4 Questions

1. And in that day _____ women shall take hold of one man.
2. What do they want from the man?
3. Who can the branch be?
4. Who does the author believe verse 2 is speaking of as the branch?
5. Who are those who have escaped?
6. What is another way of describing the remnant who will inherit God's prosperity?
7. Who does verse 3 say will be called holy?
8. What does Zion, many times, symbolize?
9. Who does the author believe the "living" in verse 3 are?
10. Why are Christians righteous?
11. The 144,000 in Revelation are spared because of what?

12. What saves the Christians?
13. Who does the author believe are the "daughters of Zion"?
14. What makes the Christians holy?
15. Where is God's dwelling place?
16. What does "Mount Zion" symbolize?
17. What word keys us that this is the congregation of the church?
18. The pillar of fire by night and the smoke by day symbolize what?
19. What is verse 6 speaking of?