

Isaiah 62 — “A City Not Forsaken”

1. God’s Relentless Love for Zion (Isaiah 62:1–5)

“For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace,
And for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest,
Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
And her salvation as a lamp that burns.”
— *Isaiah 62:1 (NKJV)*

God’s passion for His people burns like a fire that will not be quenched until His purposes are fully accomplished. His heart for Zion represents not just ancient Jerusalem, but the faithfulness of God to His promises and His covenant love that never gives up.

Even when Israel felt abandoned—through exile, persecution, or tragedy—God declared, “*You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called Hephzibah (‘My delight is in her’), and your land Beulah (‘Married’).*” (Isaiah 62:4).

These names reveal God’s tender affection. He does not merely tolerate His people; He **delights** in them. He rejoices over them like a bridegroom rejoices over his bride (Isaiah 62:5).

In the New Testament, this same image describes Christ’s relationship with His church. Paul wrote, “*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her.*” (Ephesians 5:25). As the Father rejoiced over Israel, so the Son rejoices over His redeemed people today.

Application:

God’s love for you is not distant or reluctant. He takes joy in you. If you’ve ever felt forgotten or unworthy, remember this: God’s delight is not based on your perfection, but on His covenant grace. He rejoices over you with singing (Zephaniah 3:17).

2. God’s Call for Persistent Prayer (Isaiah 62:6–7)

“I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem;
They shall never hold their peace day or night.
You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent,
And give Him no rest till He establishes
And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.”
— *Isaiah 62:6–7 (NKJV)*

God calls His people to intercede—to pray with persistence and faith. The “watchmen” are intercessors who refuse to give up until God’s promises are fulfilled.

This doesn’t mean we are trying to overcome God’s reluctance, but rather we are aligning ourselves with His purpose. Jesus illustrated this in Luke 18, describing the persistent widow who would not

stop seeking justice. The unjust judge finally yielded to her persistence, and Jesus said, “*Shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him?*” (Luke 18:7).

If even an unjust judge responds to persistence, how much more will a righteous, loving Father respond to the faithful prayers of His children?

Application:

Keep praying. Don’t give up on that loved one, that nation, that prodigal, or that situation that seems beyond hope. True intercession is born out of love and sustained by faith. The Lord invites us to “give Him no rest”—not because He forgets, but because He desires our partnership in His redemptive work.

3. God’s Promise of Restoration (Isaiah 62:8–9)

“The Lord has sworn by His right hand and by the arm of His strength:
‘Surely I will no longer give your grain as food for your enemies;
And the sons of the foreigner shall not drink your new wine,
For which you have labored;
But those who have gathered it shall eat it, and praise the Lord;
Those who have brought it together shall drink it in My holy courts.’”
— *Isaiah 62:8–9 (NKJV)*

Throughout Israel’s history, they had often labored only to have others consume the fruit of their work. Enemies plundered their harvests, and oppression robbed their joy. But God promised a reversal. The people who sowed would be the same ones who reaped and rejoiced.

This principle still applies spiritually today. When we walk in obedience, God blesses our labors. We may sow in tears, but we will reap in joy (Psalm 126:5).

Application:

Trust God to bring fruit from your faithfulness. Even when your efforts seem unseen, He will not let your labor in the Lord be in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58).

4. God’s Final Salvation and Glory (Isaiah 62:10–12)

“Go through, go through the gates!
Prepare the way for the people;
Build up, build up the highway!
Take out the stones,
Lift up a banner for the peoples!
Indeed the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the world:
‘Say to the daughter of Zion,
Surely your salvation is coming;
Behold, His reward is with Him,

And His work before Him.”
— *Isaiah 62:10–11 (NKJV)*

This passage points prophetically to the coming of the Messiah. When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people shouted, “*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!*” (Matthew 21:9). Yet a greater fulfillment is still ahead—when Christ returns to establish His kingdom and Israel is fully restored.

God’s message echoes through time: “*Behold, your salvation is coming!*” That salvation is not a system, but a **Savior**—Jesus Christ Himself.

“And they shall call them The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the Lord;
And you shall be called Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken.”
— *Isaiah 62:12 (NKJV)*

This is the destiny of every redeemed person: to be sought out, cleansed, and made holy. What God promised to Israel foreshadows His promise to all who believe in Christ.

5. Practical Application and Challenge for Believers

- **Stay Faithful in Prayer:** Be one of God’s “watchmen.” Stand on the wall of intercession for your family, your church, and your nation. God hears persistent, believing prayer.
- **Walk in Hope:** God has not forsaken you. Even in seasons of silence, His promises are sure. Keep your eyes on the One who rejoices over you.
- **Live as His Delight:** Remember your new name in Christ. You are not “Forsaken” or “Desolate,” but “Beloved” and “Redeemed.” Live like someone God delights in.
- **Proclaim His Salvation:** Lift up the banner—point others to Jesus. The world needs to hear that “*Your salvation is coming.*”

6. Invitation to Non-Believers

God’s heart toward Israel reflects His heart toward you. He longs to take away your sense of abandonment and replace it with belonging. You were created for a relationship with Him, but sin separates us from His presence.

Jesus Christ came to restore what sin destroyed. On the cross, He took our guilt and shame so that we could be forgiven. He rose again proving that His offer of eternal life and a living hope is valid.

Today, the Lord says to you, “*You shall no longer be termed Forsaken.*” He delights in you and invites you into a covenant relationship with Himself.

If you’re ready to respond, pray from your heart:

*“Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God.
Thank You for dying for my sins and rising again.
I turn from my sin and receive You as my Savior and Lord.
Make me Your own and write Your name upon my heart.
In Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

When you pray that sincerely, the Lord receives you as His own. You become part of His redeemed people—a citizen of that city which will never again be called forsaken.

Conclusion

Isaiah 62 reminds us that God’s faithfulness will never fail. What He began in Israel, He will complete. What He began in you, He will also finish.

So lift up your eyes, believer—your salvation draws near. The same God who rejoices over Zion rejoices over you. You are His delight, His crown, and His testimony to the world that He never forsakes His people.

“And they shall call them The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord; And you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.” — *Isaiah 62:12 (NKJV)*