

Peace
Isaiah 26:1-27:1

#1: A Song of Trust in God (26:1-6)

26 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.

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

#2: A Lament While Waiting on God (26:7-18)

A Prayer of Yearning (7-11)

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

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.

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.

A Confession of Dependence (12-15)

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.

An Admission of Failure (16-18)

- 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.

#3: Our Hope in the Resurrection and the Victory of God (26:19-27:1)

- 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.

27 In that day the Lord with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea.

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

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.