

“THE EAST WIND”

Text: Isaiah 27:1-10

- ◆ “He stayeth His rough wind in the day of the east wind.” (Isaiah 27:8)

Introduction to Isaiah

1. Isaiah is a beautiful book comprised of two parts.
 - ◆ In chapters 1-39, Isaiah condemns the sins of Judah.
 - ◆ In chapters 40-66, Isaiah prophesies Judah’s deliverance from the Babylonian captivity.
2. Isaiah’s name means: “**Salvation is of Jehovah**”
Isaiah deals with four different kinds of salvation:
 - ◆ Judah’s salvation from the attacks of other nations.
 - ◆ Judah’s salvation from the Babylonian Captivity.
 - ◆ The future salvation of the Jews.
 - ◆ The personal salvation of any sinner who puts their faith in Jesus the coming Redeemer.
3. Isaiah prophesies 700 years before Christ (it’s a time of international tension).
4. Isaiah warns Judah not to trust in politics but to trust in the Lord.
5. The leadership refused to listen and Judah was taken captive by Babylon.
6. Isaiah’s book is the Word of God to comfort God’s people during their exile in captivity.

Fact: It is God’s Word to comfort and uplift every heart!

Our Setting Before Us In Isaiah 26 – Israel sings to the Lord

- ◆ The enemy has been brought down. (Vs. 5, 6)
- ◆ The Lord has given peace to His own. (Vs. 3, 12)
- ◆ The song is one of confidence as Jerusalem will be strong in the Lord.

In Isaiah 27 – The Lord sings about Israel

- ◆ God sings how He is faithful to His vineyard (His church)
- ◆ God sings how He intervenes when His people call upon Him.
- ◆ God sings about what He provides in those “tough seasons” of life.
- ◆ God records what He will do in the “Day of the east wind”.

**“He stayeth the rough wind in the day of the east wind.” (v. 8)
(What is the east wind?)**

Fact: In Bible days “**the east wind**” is never used in a good sense:

1. Jonah’s gourd was shattered by **the east wind!**
2. The locust that plagued Egypt were driven by **the east wind!**
3. The ships of Tarshish were broken up by **the east wind!**
4. Job’s friends declared that Job was driven by **the east wind!**
5. God told deserting Ephraim that they would perish by **the east wind!**

No One Is Exempt

Fact: There comes a time when the east wind blows across the brow of every believer.

Fact: There will come a time when the east wind will touch your life and mine.

1. The doctor will say, "I'm sorry, we did all that we could do."
2. The boss may say, "I'm sorry, we have to let you go."
3. A son or daughter may say, "I'm leaving to escape your authority."
4. A friend may betray you or desert you or abandon you.
5. A sudden loss may change your whole world.

But what does God say?

"I will stay the rough wind in the day of the east wind." (v. 8) (Which means)

"I will give My people strength, courage and supernaturally intervene in the day of "the east wind."

Questions with answers:

1. What will Jesus do in the day of the east wind?
2. How will Jesus be Lord of your east wind?
3. Why can we remain confident in the day of the east wind?

The Four Absolutes In The Midst of The East Wind

I. There Is "Preservation" in The East Wind (v. 3, 4)

"I the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment; lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day." (v.3)

Fact: In verse 2, God's people are described as "**A vineyard of red wine**".

Fact: In verse 3, God records how He cares for His vineyard (those who belong to Him),

- ◆ "**I will keep it**" means that God will preserve you in the east wind, He will not allow any more than you are able to bear.
- ◆ "**I will water it every moment**", means that God will provide living water wherever He finds you this day. (As the vinedresser waters his vineyard, so Jesus will water those dry and thirsty; He will strengthen you).
- ◆ "Who would set the briers and thorns against me in battle? I would go through them. I would burn them together." (v. 4)

Question: Have any hang-ups?

Question: Have any reasons why you cannot be watered well and strong in the Lord?

Question: Is there any sin that keeps you from a clear conscience?

Question: Any "**briers or thorns**" keeping you from your fullest potential?

Fact: "Briers and thorns" are the enemy of a vineyard!

Fact: "Briers and thorns" are the things that keep you from growing strong!

Question: What will Jesus do?

"I will go through them and will burn them together" (which means):

Jesus will totally **destroy, conquer and consume!**

...Whatever keeps His vineyard (you) from growing and bearing fruit!!

"A fire goeth before him and burneth up his enemies round about...the hills melt like wax at the presence of the Lord." (Psalm 97:3, 5)

II. There Is “Peace” In The East Wind (V. 5)

“Take hold of My strength and make **peace** with Me.” (v. 5)

Question: What is the peace of God?

Answer: The New Testament word for “peace” (EIRENE) means:

1. Rest
2. Order
3. Harmony
4. Security
5. Quietness
6. Tranquility

God’s Peace Is:

1. Tranquility in your inner man, your soul, your spirit because of God’s presence in your life.
2. That assurance given to us by God that He is in control over all, at all times.
3. That quality of God’s nature imparted to a believer who is yielded to the Holy Spirit.
4. Security in the midst of turmoil, the eye in the middle of the storm.
5. That fruit of the spirit which gives order, harmony and rest to you on the inside. (A quality desperately needed today in a rat race of push and shove to get ahead.)

“Take Hold” in verse 5 means:

- #1. To flee to, and #2. To move towards

It is Jesus inviting us to:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| #1. “Take hold of My strength | #3. “Take hold of My yoke” |
| #2. “Take hold of My ability” | #4. “Take hold of Myself” |

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect **peace** whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.” (Isaiah 26:3)

“The Lord will give strength unto His people, the Lord will bless His people with **peace**.” (Psalm 29:11)

III. There Is “Progress” In The East Wind (V. 6)

“He shall cause you to blossom and bud and fill the world with fruit.” (v. 6)

God is saying:

For Israel: “You will greatly flourish following the return from the Babylonian captivity.”

1. Judah was captured and put on hold 70 years.
2. Many of the people got discouraged and fatigued
3. Many could see no further than their present captivity.

But God saw their future restoration and fruitfulness and blessing.

For you, God is saying:

1. “I see you after your east wind is gone.”
2. “I see your tomorrows so rest at ease.”
3. “I know what I am doing in your life.”

Remember in the east wind:

“No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” (Hebrews 12:11)

No need to loose heart:

“Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness? To do thee good at thy latter end.”
(Deuteronomy 8:15, 16)

Progress and fruit will take place. (Jeremiah 17)

“Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.” (v. 7)

“For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and...

1. **“Shall not see when heath cometh.”** (Or)
(You will not fear in the midst of the east wind)
2. **“Her leaf shall be green.”** (Or)
(God will sustain you in the east wind)
3. **“Shall not be careful in the year of drought”** (Or)
(You will not be anxious and uptight in the east wind)
4. **“Neither shall you cease from yielding fruit.”** (Or)
(What you thought was painful and wasted, God will use to increase fruit fullness).

Remember:

The husbandman is never so close, as when he prunes the branches!

IV. There Is “Penetration” In The East Wind (Vs. 7-10)

“Yet the defenced city shall be desolate, and the habitation forsaken.” (v. 10)

Fact: This refers to Babylon (now desolate).

Fact: The place where God’s people were once held against their will, is now desolate (or free from captivity).

Fact: The place that once held Judah and stole their joy is now destroyed.

Fact: Judah can now celebrate:

- ◆ They have their freedom ◆ They have their miracle ◆ They have their deliverance

Question: Can God penetrate, get through and deliver anyone of any sin?

Answer: “The groves and images shall not stand up.” (v. 9)

“I would go through and burn up every brier and thorn.” (v. 4)

Yes. Yes. Yes:

Whatever it is that has held you to this day, God will suddenly burn through!

Conclusion

When the “east wind” blows, remember:

1. God will **preserve** you and water you every moment.
2. God will give you His **peace** and you can remain free from anxiousness and turmoil.
3. God will enable you to **progress** and bear fruit, if you respond the proper way.
4. God will **penetrate**, break through and burn-up whatever would hinder you from going forward.

AMEN!
Bill Kirk