

## Isaiah 33 The Lord Contends against Godless Influence

As the supreme King, the Lord condemns all godless influences in our lives and secures our peace in righteousness by forgiving our sin.

- 1) The Lord condemns all godless influences in our lives (vv. 1-14).
  - a) God condemned the external influence of the godless Assyrians (v. 1).
  - b) God condemned the internal influence of the godless rulers of Judah (vv. 7-14).
    - i) The godless rulers of Judah produced a failed government (vv. 7-9).
    - ii) God's punishment of the godless is the self-destructiveness of sin (vv. 10-12).
    - iii) All people, Jews and Gentiles, are summoned to acknowledge God's might and to learn from His punishment of the godless (vv. 13-14).
  - c) The threat and failure of these godless influences drove the people to pray for God's grace and salvation (vv. 2-4).
    - i) Acknowledging their sin and unworthiness, the people appeal to God's grace alone (v. 2a).
    - ii) Repenting of their false hopes, the people look to God as their only salvation (v. 2b).
    - iii) They confess God's sovereign power over the nations (vv. 3-4).
  - d) God answers with the promise of salvation (vv. 5-6).
    - i) As the High King, He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness (v. 5).
    - ii) His salvation results in stability, wisdom and knowledge, and the fear of the Lord (v. 6).
- 2) The Lord secures our peace in righteousness by forgiving our sin (vv. 15-24).
  - a) The people asked rhetorically in despair, "Who among us can dwell with the everlasting burnings?" The understood answer was no one. But Isaiah answers by describing a Ruler who can approach "the Consuming Fire" who is the LORD God (vv. 15-16). Therefore . . . .
    - i) God's redeemed people would see the King in His beauty (v. 17).
    - ii) They would see Jerusalem at peace in righteousness under His reign (vv. 18-21).
  - b) The LORD Himself is the Ideal King (v. 22).
  - c) Even though His people are as helpless as a ship adrift with no sails, they will enjoy the spoils of war because God fights for them (v. 23).
  - d) The Lord will heal them by the forgiveness of their iniquity (v. 24).

Jesus died to free us from both the penalty of sin and the power of sin. We are forgiven by God and ruled by God through Jesus Christ. Jesus is a complete Savior who accomplishes a complete salvation. Christians are not "just forgiven." It is true that we are not yet perfect, but in addition to forgiveness we are also ruled by a Righteous King who fills us with justice and righteousness, wisdom and knowledge, and the fear of the Lord. How many doors of ungodly influence will the Lord have to slam in your face before you forsake all others and trust completely in Him?