

*Is. 24:7 ¶ The new wine mourns, The vine decays, All the merry-hearted sigh.*

*Wine is removed during the Tribulation.*

*Is. 24:8 The gaiety of tambourines ceases, The noise of revelers stops, The gaiety of the harp ceases.*

Music is stopped among the unredeemed of the earth due to their lack of hope amidst the intense suffering of the Tribulation. In verses 14-16a, we will find that the redeemed of the earth, during this same time period, will bring glory to God through song. Quite a contrast! Later, in Isaiah 25:5, we will once again see that the songs of the unredeemed will be silenced during the Tribulation.

*Is. 24:9 They do not drink wine with song; Strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.*

*That which is left to drink is bitter.*

*Is. 24:10 The city of chaos is broken down; Every house is shut up so that none may enter.*

“*The city*” is probably either Babylon or Jerusalem, more than likely Babylon because these prophecies relate to the entire world rather than just the holy land—and Babylon will be the economic and political capital of the entire world during the Tribulation. Therefore *Babylon*, based on this verse as well as a wealth of other verses in God’s word (such as Isaiah 13 and 14), will be *broken down* during the Tribulation and *Every house...shut up* within it. *None* will be allowed to *enter*.

*Is. 24:11 There is an outcry in the streets concerning the wine; All joy turns to gloom. The gaiety of the earth is banished.*

*In Babylon, the wine will be removed; joy will turn to gloom; and gaiety will be banished.*

*Is. 24:12 Desolation is left in the city, And the gate is battered to ruins.*

*The city of Babylon is desolate, even the gate to the city will be ruined.*

*Is. 24:13 For thus it will be in the midst of the earth among the peoples, As the shaking of an olive tree, As the gleanings when the grape harvest is over.*

As the city of Babylon is judged during the Tribulation, so will the inhabitants *of the earth* be judged. In fact, the Tribulation will be so overwhelming that the population *of the earth* will drastically decrease. For example, *two-thirds* of the Jewish population will die during the Tribulation (Zechariah 13:8-9).

*Is. 24:14 They raise their voices, they shout for joy. They cry out from the west concerning the majesty of the Lord.*

Based on the content of verses 14-16a, the enormous judgments associated with the Tribulation will cause many to turn to the Lord. Verse 14 confirms that there will be those *from the west* who will acknowledge *the majesty of the Lord*.

*Is. 24:15 Therefore glorify the Lord in the east, The name of the Lord, the God of Israel In the coastlands of the sea.*

Individuals from *the east* who *glorify the Lord*.

*Is. 24:16 From the ends of the earth we hear songs, "Glory to the Righteous One," But I say, "Woe to me! Woe to me! Alas for me! The treacherous deal treacherously, And the treacherous deal very treacherously."*

The first portion of this verse, along with the previous two verses, confirms that there will be those who *glorify* God (through song) *From the ends of the earth* as a result of the judgments of the Tribulation. This is verified in Revelation 6-9 where judgments are poured out in chapters 6, 8, and 9. In the midst of these judgments there will be *one hundred and forty-four thousand* Jewish evangelists sent throughout the world (Revelation 7), resulting in many finding Christ and glorifying God. Obviously, Isaiah 24-27 is properly entitled the "Little Apocalypse" since its configuration is much like that of the book of Revelation.

After the first phrase of this verse, Isaiah again addresses the negative conditions that will exist during the Tribulation by saying, "*But I say, 'Woe to me! Woe to me! Alas for me! The treacherous deal treacherously, And the treacherous deal very treacherously.'*" In other words, in the midst of the glorification of God's name during the first portion of the Tribulation, there will be a continuation of disobedience among the unredeemed of the earth.

*Is. 24:17 Terror and pit and snare Confront you, O inhabitant of the earth.*

The words "*Terror*," "...*pit*," and "*snare*," combine to emphasize that the worldwide judgments of the Tribulation are impossible to avoid, as is also confirmed in verse 18.

*Is. 24:18 Then it will be that he who flees the report of disaster will fall into the pit, And he who climbs out of the pit will be caught in the snare; For the windows above are opened, and the foundations of the earth shake.*

Because the phrase, "*the windows above are opened, and the foundations of the earth shake*," is very similar to the wording of Genesis 7:11, it helps confirm that *the everlasting covenant* mentioned in verse 5 is the *covenant* that God made with Noah. Of course, the means of judgment in Genesis 7 was *water* while the judgment in Isaiah is *fire*; but the results are the same in that the destruction is worldwide and thorough. The next time you read through the book of Revelation, notice how many times "*fire*" is used as a form of judgment.

*Is. 24:19 The earth is broken asunder, The earth is split through, The earth is shaken violently.*

Due to the Tribulation, *The earth* will be *broken*,...*split*, and *shaken violently*.

*Is. 24:20 The earth reels to and fro like a drunkard, And it totters like a shack, For its transgression is heavy upon it, And it will fall, never to rise again.*

Because of God's judgments *upon...the earth* due to man's *transgression*, it will reel *to and fro like a drunkard*. This will occur during the Tribulation when the Lord judges the earth for the purpose of destroying all wickedness and ushering in righteousness (read verse 23). The judgments directed toward the earth in the book of Revelation go hand in hand with these prophecies of Isaiah.

Note the phrase, “*And it will fall, never to rise again*” (Isaiah 24:20). The American Standard Version renders this verse as: “*The earth shall stagger like a drunken man, and shall sway to and fro like a hammock; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it, and it shall fall, and not rise again.*” Note that it is the *transgression* that will fall, never to rise again. Therefore, we are dealing with the *transgression* falling—not the earth falling. *The earth* will be refurbished at the end of the Tribulation (Isaiah 65:17) in preparation for the Millennium.

*Is. 24:21 So it will happen in that day, That the Lord will punish the host of heaven, on high, And the kings of the earth, on earth.*

At the end of the Tribulation, God will *punish the* fallen angels and all of unredeemed mankind.

*Is. 24:22 And they will be gathered together Like prisoners in the dungeon, And will be confined in prison; And after many days they will be punished.*

As we look at this verse, you may want to read what the notes associated with Isaiah 14:9 have to say concerning Hades and *Sheol*.

Unredeemed man will be thrown into *the dungeon*, or hell, and fallen angelic beings (including *Satan*—Revelation 20:1-3) *in prison*, or *the abyss* (Revelation 20:1 and 3), until a specified time period has elapsed. The time period is *after many days*, which makes reference to the one thousand years of the Millennium. Scripture confirms that *Babylon* (Isaiah 13:19-22) and *Edom* (Isaiah 34:6-15) will also house demons for the duration of the Millennium.

After the Millennium, and in preparation for the Eternal Order, all of unredeemed mankind will be raised out of hell (*Hades*) to be judged at the *great white throne* judgment (Revelation 20:11-13). They are then punished by being thrown into their eternal abode, *the lake of fire* (Revelation 20:14-15). It is obvious that the *eternal* abode for all the fallen angelic beings (the demons and Satan) is also the lake of *fire* (Matthew 25:41). Therefore, after all of God’s judgments are completed, *the lake of fire* will be eternally inhabited by the following—all the unredeemed of mankind (Revelation 20:11-15), all demons (Matthew 25:41), Satan (Revelation 20:10; Matthew 25:41), the Antichrist (Revelation 19:20; 20:10), and *the false prophet* (Revelation 19:20; 20:10). Consequently, the only two inhabitants of the lake of fire during the Millennium will be the Antichrist and the false prophet (the notes associated with Isaiah 14:9 and 14:20 tie in well here). The remainder joins them after the Millennium. Again we see that the configuration of Isaiah 24-26 is much the same as that of the book of Revelation.

*Is. 24:23 Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, For the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, And His glory will be before His elders.*

Even though the *new heavens and...new earth* of the Millennium (addressed in Isaiah 65:17) will be magnificent, Jesus' *glory* will greatly supercede the light emitted by *the moon* as well as *the sun* (read the notes associated with Isaiah 30:26 and 60:19-20). *Jesus will reign from Jerusalem*, as is also confirmed by Zechariah 8:3, 22 and 14:16-17. The *elders* will have *His glory* manifested *before* them.