

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: [Isaiah 35:3-10](#).
- B. Isaiah tells the Israelites that when they are allowed to go back to Jerusalem, after the Babylonian captivity, they will travel a highway of holiness. Only the faithful Israelites will walk on it.
- C. The spiritual, NT application of Isaiah's highway of holiness is found in Mt. 7:13-14 where Jesus spoke of the narrow gate and strait way for the Xian to walk.
"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. [14](#) For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it."
- D. Knowing that we also have a strait and narrow highway to travel let us see what Isaiah had to say about his highway of holiness.

I. THE UNCLEAN WILL NOT TRAVEL THIS HIGHWAY.

- A. We live in a very clean society. We want nothing to do with germs and dirt that can cause sickness and disease.
- B. The Xian is also concerned about those kinds of unspiritual things that cause spiritual sickness and can lead to spiritual death. Things which the Bible labels as sinful are also thought of as unclean.
- C. In speaking of the heavenly realm, John tells us nothing unclean will be in heaven (Rev. 21:27; 21:8).
[\(Rev 21:27\)](#) and nothing unclean and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.
[\(Rev 21:8\)](#) "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
- D. When giving His stinging denunciation of the Pharisees, Jesus spoke of them as being unclean. This was quite a charge to a Jew (Mt. 23:25-27).
"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. [26](#) "You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also. [27](#) "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness."
- E. In the NT references found in Hebrews and James also tell of how we are to cleanse ourselves and not be found unclean in God's sight if we want to be pleasing to Him (Heb. 10:22; Jas. 4:8; Ac. 22:16).
[\(Heb. 10:22\)](#) let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
[\(Jas. 4:8\)](#) Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
[\(Ac. 22:16\)](#) 'And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

II. FOOLS WILL NOT TRAVEL THIS HIGHWAY.

- A. The Bible speaks of many different kinds of fools. It is truly foolish not to obey God, and the fools who don't will not walk the highway of holiness.
- B. Remember the rich farmer who thought he could rest and take life easy due to the many goods laid up in store. God told him he was a fool because he was not rich toward Him (see Lk. 12:16-20).
- C. Probably the most famous passage that speaks of fools is found in the Psalms, chapter 14:1. Atheists and agnostics are fools in God's sight.
- D. Even the very intelligent become fools when in their great knowledge they fail to see and acknowledge God (see Rom. 1:18-23).
- E. It doesn't take super intelligence, education or wisdom to walk the highway of holiness, it just takes full trust and obedience to God.

III. THE HOLY WILL TRAVEL THIS HIGHWAY.

- A. This highway is for those who choose to not participate in the deeds of darkness and become unclean. Those who want to be holy as God is holy will walk this highway.
- B. Christians have been chosen to be holy and blameless in God's sight (Eph. 1:4).
just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love
- C. As we bury the man of sin and try to live righteously we come more holy (Col. 3:12).
And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;
- D. We live differently from the world. Some might say we march to the beat of a different drummer. I would rather say I'm walking on a different highway, the highway of holiness (Rom. 12:1-2).
I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. [2] And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.
- E. Remember, that X will deliver up to God the church on the final day, and it will be holy and blameless. Jesus has made it that way (Eph. 5:25-27).
Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; **26** that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, **27** that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless.

IV. THE REDEEMED WILL TRAVEL THIS HIGHWAY.

- A. We have purchased by God through the blood of Jesus. Bought with a price.
- B. Those redeemed by Jesus will walk the great highway with all the saved (Col. 1:13-14).
For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, **14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- C. The great concept of Rev. 1:5 is that when we were redeemed we were released from our sins. Sin has no hold on those walking the right highway (Rev. 1:5).
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood,...
- D. And we must realize that we have been redeemed from every, lawless deed so that we can be purified and be zealous of good works (Titus 2:14).
who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Those that have never been cleansed by the blood of Jesus will not walk on the highway.
- B. Those that are too foolish to submit to God and walk in His way will not enjoy the blessings along the highway of holiness.
- C. But to those who are holy and blameless; to those who are redeemed by the blood of X, they will walk this great highway.
- D. Look at the promise Isaiah gives in 35:10.
And the ransomed of the LORD will return
And come with joyful shouting to Zion,
With everlasting joy upon their heads.
They will find gladness and joy,
And sorrow and sighing will flee away.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.