

**Title:** *“The Apologetics of the Day of the Lord”*

**Sub-Title:** *“The Changed Heart is Proof Positive”*

**Key Verse:** *Isaiah: 9:6 “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”*

**Introduction:** As we have been discussing Bible doctrines develop one’s worldview. And one’s worldview develops one’s understanding and ability to communicate biblical apologetics to those in their immediate sphere of influence. An individual’s worldview is determined to much degree upon their level of understanding of Bible doctrines. Bible doctrines changes the heart of the Christian, resulting in a progressively more of a God perspective of our world and our purpose in the world. Restated, a God view changes how we see God, ourselves, and others.

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In Isaiah chapter twelve the prophet Isaiah is giving his hearers and readers directives that were in stark contrast to the audience of Isaiah. Needless to say that a prophet is giving new information out that people do not already have. On the other hand Isaiah is also reminding the Hebrews of some of the things of God that the Hebrew's already know but have need of being reminded.

This account of Isaiah took place in B.C. 713, more than seven centuries prior to the live of Christ. The clause, "The Day of the Lord" was used three times in just six short verses. Isaiah described the mercies of God, how He delivered the Hebrews from the Babylonian captivity. For the Christian today the parallel to the grace God extended to everyone that calls on His name is clear.

Relative to the eminent return of Christ in the clouds, and Christ return to rule the World with an iron fist from the City of God, Jerusalem, the Day of the Lord is a stark reminder that we must be ready, secure in the saving grace of Jesus Christ, when He returns.

**Text: Isaiah 12:1-6** “And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.”

**I. The Day of the Lord is an apologetic for salvation.**

**A. Zephaniah 1:14-18** “The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.”

- B. **Vs. 15** “That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,”
- C. **Vs. 16** “A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers.”
- D. **Vs. 17** “And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung.”
- E. **Vs. 18** “Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.”

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1. The Day of the Lord gives fair warning that His return is eminent.
2. The Day of the Lord gives God's people motivation to be a witness for Christ today.
3. The Day of the Lord gives God's people reason to praise the Lord.
4. The Day of the Lord gives God's people comfort knowing they are in right relationship with the Lord.
5. The Day of the Lord is a powerful apologetic for skeptics to trust in the Lord, and for believers to take action in service to the Lord.

**II. The Day of the Lord is a call to salvation. vss. 2-3**

- A. **Romans 6:17** “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.”
- B. **Vs. 18** “Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”
- C. **Vs. 19** “I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.”
- D. **Vs. 20** “For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.”

E. **Vs. 21** “What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.”

F. **Vs. 22** “But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.”

G. **Vs. 23** “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

1. Isaiah asked the Hebrews to trust in the Lord for their salvation.
2. Isaiah's testimony is that he had trusted in the Lord for his salvation.
3. Isaiah's joy was derived from his salvation through faith in the Lord.

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4. Paul stated that you used to be a servant of sin, but now you are obedient to the Lord.
5. Paul stated that you are free now from sin, and are a servant of righteousness.
6. Paul wrote that you previously were servants of iniquity but now are servants of holiness.
7. Paul wrote that the fruit of your life used to be death, but now the fruit of your life is eternal life.
8. Paul explained that salvation was a gift from God, and must be received.



### **III. The Day of the Lord is a call to action. vss. 4-6**

A. Isaiah challenges God's people to praise the Lord.

B. Isaiah challenges the people to call upon the Lord.

C. Isaiah tells believers to declare the Lord's doings.

D. Isaiah stated that the Lord's name is to be exalted.

E. Isaiah encouraged believers to sing unto the Lord.

1. The objective of Isaiah's prophecy was for God's people to respond to the message.

2. Isaiah's first call to action is to call on the Lord for salvation.

3. Isaiah's next call to action is for you to be a spokesman for the Lord.

4. Isaiah's final call to action is to worship the Lord.

**Conclusion:** Isaiah was doing in his day a very similar task that lay before us today. Isaiah was telling his hearers what the Lord will do for those that believe at some point in the future. Some prophecies fulfilled in his time, while many have been fulfilled since his time. Isaiah also prophesied even into our future in our day.

In our case we are to tell the accounts of the Bible: The Create account; the giving of the Law; the Great Commission; the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Christ all must be taught to the present generation.

Isaiah the prophet gave in this short passage what almost seems to read like a New Testament passage. The main themes are the Lord and the personal salvation of mankind. Isaiah declares a deadline when punishment will come to those who have not trusted in the Lord.

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Paul's account from Romans chapter six gave a clear contrast between being a servant of sin, and being a servant of righteousness. Paul's contrast between death and everlasting life gives compelling reason to trust in the Lord as one's personal Saviour.

Isaiah at the end of chapter twelve challenged his hearers in numerous different ways. We are challenged to call upon the Lord. We were challenged to praise the Lord, and sing unto Him. And we were challenged to tell others about the Lord.

## **Applications:**

1. Trust Jesus Christ today, if you have not done so. Tell someone that you have become a Christian today!
2. Download Knight's Notes on: Excellent Way.tv.
3. Read Isaiah chapter thirteen before we get together again.
4. Study and discuss the apologetic of Isaiah chapter twelve with family and friends.
5. Share [www.ExcellentWay.tv](http://www.ExcellentWay.tv) on you social media.
6. Subscribe to our YouTube channel, Dr. Andrew Knight, and share the videos with everyone.

**Where we began:**

- We began with how doctrine shapes our worldview.
- We explained how our worldview determined our apologetics.
- We gave some brief details of the background of this chapter of Isaiah.
- We discussed the two themes, the Day of the Lord and the apologetic of salvation.
- We also discussed the servant of sin and of righteousness.
- Finally we discussed the calls to action by Isaiah the prophet.

**Next time:**

- We will look at the burden of Babylon in Isaiah chapter thirteen.
- We will continue to see the theme of the Day of the Lord.
- We will look at some of the horrors of the great tribulation.
- We will discuss several tribulation themes.
- We will make application of Isaiah chapter thirteen to apologetics.