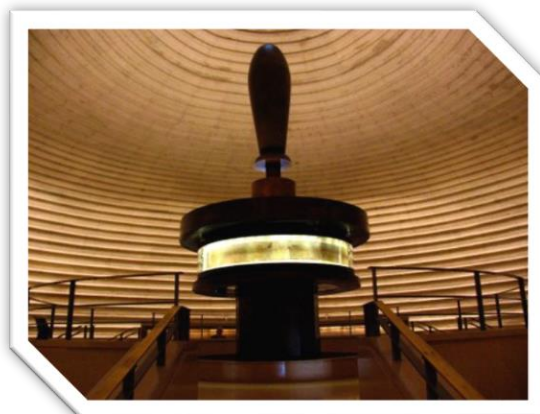


ISAIAH 4 vs 1

The Bible is so interesting, when you actually read it... isn't it? It's not very mysterious or complicated. Since chapter 2, prophet Isaiah has been telling us about a **Day belonging to the LORD, concerning Judah and Jerusalem**, and the whole world, too; **a work day for Him; not** a vacation day or holiday party time. It is a specific, awesome day; it's an appointment He plans to keep when... *the LORD alone will be exalted... when He arises to shake terribly the earth... in that day:*



This **chapter 4** is a chapter you will never forget: it starts with a sexy introduction to that Day; and it ends with Messiah coming to do some -- but not all... the work He intends to do on that Day...

¹ **On that day** seven women will take hold of one man / Wow!

Why? Perhaps John gives us a clue... when he wrote: *the kings / and politicians of the earth, the great moguls, the rich, the chief captains, the mighty warriors, and all the slave and free labor, hid themselves in caves and cleft rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and the rocks, fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb -- Revelation 6:15-16.*

Did the Lord say, *Amen* to their request? Was His creation equally accommodating and joyous to comply... as fools and chicken bleeps thought they could take cover?

Hey, have you read the recent Ivy League university studies on little children growing up in atheist families... who unequivocally express their faith in the Living God? Have you ever wondered: will there be more men or women in heaven? We know in the NT, not one woman confronted and challenged Jesus, only men did.

On that day seven women will take hold of one man / perhaps there will be a shortage of men,

saying,

We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel / we will earn our living, we will clothe ourselves; women have never been afraid to work:

only let us be called by your name, to take away our reproach / to save us from our disgrace, our lack of childbearing.

² **On that day** **The Branch of the LORD** / Isaiah, Jeremiah and Zechariah all speak of Messiah coming in glory to rule the earth...

The Bible is interesting when we read it, isn't it? ... because **twice** Zechariah 6 says:

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The Branch... He will build the temple of the LORD... He will build the temple of the LORD.

So how about we let MESSIAH come first... before anybody else gets some hair-brained idea like king David had... when he wanted to start building something in that place that wasn't really in the plan of God.

If I were to take bets... I would imagine that **The Branch**, The Messiah of God doesn't need any committee meeting input. I am confident He already knows what He intends to do since He is the Son of a Carpenter.

On that day The Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious / all our Savior is and ever does is **beautiful and glorious**,

and the fruit of the earth will be excellency and splendor for every Israelite / everyone from **father Israel**, not just those from his grandson Judah; and he's not talking about every fool from father Israel, but those who honorably and unhyprocritically carry the name: **ruled by God**, written on their heart and mind.

and the fruit of the earth will be excellency and splendor for every Israelite

who is spared / for everyone who survived the terrible shaking and battle.

³ **And it will be, all who are left in Zion** / and now, Isaiah talks about those in the City of David, the 12 acres 600 feet south of the roman Fort Antonio; where Solomon built the first temple; and where the 2nd temple was repaired in time for Messiah to come when Daniel said He would come – when Messiah became the Chief cornerstone rejected by the builders, and He disowned that plot of land; saying not a stone would remain standing there,

all who are left in Zion, all who remain in Jerusalem / all who are alive after the great day has come and gone,

will be called holy / sacred, real saints –

all who are recorded among the living in Jerusalem:

⁴ **when the LORD has washed away the filth from the daughters of Zion,**

and purged the bloodshed from the midst of Jerusalem,

by the spirit / by the breath, or wind... **of judgment** -- in Hebrew: *mishpat*, literally,

shutting the serpent's mouth, which is something only Messiah can do;

and a spirit of burning / for the last 2700 years, tons and tons of dirt and filthiness... and squalor has piled up in that City, starting with the grime of graven images, so offensive to our great God. When He comes it will all get cleaned up, and with all the filth gone; I bet, we won't recognize it as the same place.

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⁵ **And the LORD will create over all Mount Zion / over Zion, the City of David...** notice: Isaiah did not say over all Mount Moriah,

over all Mount Zion, over her gatherings...

a cloud and incense rising during the day,

and a brilliant firelight during the night:

over all the glorious ones will be a canopy.

⁶ **And there will be a **TABERNACLE** / a TENT ...** mentioned in **Leviticus 23**, and 3 times in **Zechariah 14**... **sukkah** is a tent, a temporary shelter; apparently the LORD knows what He wants there: a temporary tent was good enough for Him in the exodus through the wilderness, though old king David wanted to build HIM a house. Hmm? I guess the LORD clearly sees the BIG PICTURE when one day, *heaven and earth will pass away...* only to be replaced with *a new heaven and earth...* that none of us could imagine. Notice, there is NO mention of a place for bloody sacrifices – those hardheads into further offending God will be too late; the final sacrifice for sin was made. When Messiah comes again it will be to teach those from every nation who gather in His family.

So, can we stop trying to be helpful? God has already told us what He planned; and noticed the trouble-makers still haven't included: *the Stone that the builders rejected*, the Chief cornerstone still isn't part of their plans.

The Lord knows what He is doing; and since He is the God of the living, not the dead... the LORD doesn't need some dreary, drab mausoleum-kind-of-building made of brick or stone in that place. So, remember that when HE comes **He will build the temple of the LORD...** or whatever He intends to build.

When He came the first time, He said: *I will build My Church*. So, don't mess up His plans, okay?

There will be a **TENT to shade from the heat of the day,**

and for a refuge and shelter from the storm and the rain.

