

ISAIAH 4¹

The Holy Remnant of Israel in Jerusalem

2 In that day² the branch (צֶמַח)³ of Yahweh shall be beautiful (צָבִי) and glorious (פְּבוֹד), and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and honor of the survivors⁴ of Israel. 3 And he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy (קְדוֹשׁ), everyone who has been recorded for life (חַיִּים) in Jerusalem, 4 when Yahweh shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion⁵ and cleansed the bloodstains of Jerusalem from its midst by a spirit (רוּחַ) of judgment and by a spirit (רוּחַ) of burning.⁶

5 Then Yahweh will create (בָּרָא)⁷ over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night, for over all the glory there will be a canopy. 6 There will be a booth for shade by day from the heat, and for a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.⁸

¹ Is 4:1 is part of Is 3.

² See *The Day of Yahweh*.

³ Here the branch of Yahweh seems to be the remnant of Israel, not the Messiah.

⁴ See *The Remnant of Israel*.

⁵ See Is 3:16-26.

⁶ Judgment and burning is necessary for Jerusalem to be washed and cleansed.

⁷ Interesting verb! Yahweh will intervene to create a canopy for the protection of the remnant of Israel.

⁸ Will this take place during the Tribulation and Messianic kingdom?

Biblical Worldview

- 1. In the Messianic kingdom and beyond, the remnant of Israel will experience beauty, glory, pride, honor, holiness, and life in Jerusalem.**
 - a. **Is 4:2-3** 2 In that day the branch (צֶמַח) of Yahweh shall be beautiful (צָבִי) and glorious (כְּבוֹד), and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and honor of the survivors of Israel. 3 And he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy (קְדוֹשׁ), everyone who has been recorded for life (חַיִּים) in Jerusalem....

- 2. However, the filth and bloodstains of Jerusalem first must be washed and cleansed.**
 - a. **Is 4:4** 4 when Yahweh shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and cleansed the bloodstains of Jerusalem from its midst by a spirit (רוּחַ) of judgment and by a spirit (רוּחַ) of burning.
 - b. **Is 2:2-3** 2 It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of Yahweh shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be lifted up above the hills. And all the nations shall flow to it, 3 and many peoples shall come and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.
(1) “The Israel of 2:6-4:1 can only fulfill the destiny given her in 2:2-4 by experiencing the judgment expressed throughout 2:6-4:1 and the purification described in 4:2-6. This schema would correspond well with the thought of ch. 1 and indeed the whole book: proud, self-sufficient Israel can become the witness to the greatness of God only when she has been reduced to helplessness by his just judgment and then restored to life by his unmerited grace” (Oswalt, *NICOT*, 113).
 - c. Israel gets greater blessing but also harsher punishment than the nations because of her special position before God.

- 3. In the Messianic kingdom and beyond, God will shelter Israel as he did in the past.**
 - a. **Is 4:5** 5 Then Yahweh will create (בָּרָא) over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night, for over all the glory there will be a canopy. 6 There will be a booth for shade by day from the heat, and for a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.
 - b. **Ex 13:21-22** 21 And Yahweh went before [Israel] by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. 22 The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

Notes