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## The Highway and Messiah's Return!

A look at Isaiah 35

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*Prophecies* are messages from the Lord given through the prophets by the Spirit of God. They give encouragement, warning, rebuke, or they foretell future events. *Messianic prophecies* are messages from the Lord given through the prophets that foretell or reflect the life of Yeshua the Messiah (Jesus) hundreds of years before His birth. (For more about Messianic prophecy, please see my writing *The Masterpiece of Messianic Prophecy*.)

The prophets of the Old Testament gave messages for their current time; however, their messages often went beyond their own understanding with multiple fulfillments in the immediate and far futures. We see *hints* in their messages that connect to other portions of Scripture.

Isaiah 35 takes a turn (from God's judgment on evil in Chapter 34) to joy in Israel's deliverance. In it, we see hints of Yeshua's return and our deliverance from this corrupt world. It speaks of a **glorious highway!**

In Scripture, the Hebrew word for *highway*, *maslûl*, metaphorically represents a wide-open, smooth, safe passageway of deliverance for God's people.

- Isaiah spoke of a **highway** for the remnant of God's people coming from exile "just as there was [a highway] for Israel on the day they came out of the land of Egypt [through the Red Sea]. (Isaiah 11:16; Exodus 14:21-22)
- Likewise, God provided a **highway** for His people through the overflowing Jordan River as they approached the city of Jericho. (Joshua 3:14-17)
- Isaiah 40:3 foretells of John who would immerse the repentant ones in water to prepare a **highway** in their hearts to receive Yeshua. John "came as a witness to testify about the Light so that all might believe through him." (John 1:7) He said, "I am the voice of one calling out in the wilderness, 'Make the way of the Lord straight,' as Isaiah the prophet said." (John 1:23)  
God always provides a highway for us to follow Him!

As I read Isaiah 35, I see Yeshua coming back on the clouds to take us to Himself! We will walk up **the highway of transformation!** Our bodies will be metamorphosized and our entire beings will be made new! Some people call this *the rapture*, since we will be suddenly and gloriously carried away!

On the next page, we'll look at Isaiah 35 side-by-side with passages about Yeshua's return! But first, let's pray with words from Isaiah 40:

*Father, we cannot wait to be caught up with You, walking on the highway You have prepared for us! Not only will we be completely changed, but **we will see You** in all Your beauty... the One we have loved, the One from Whom we have received such love and grace! Until then, level the terrain in our hearts so we can see You. Take away every obstacle so we can run the race with endurance. Let every valley be lifted up and every mountain and hill be made low; let the uneven ground become a plain so we can see Your glory revealed in the clouds of heaven! Our longing eyes are raised to the sky!*

## Isaiah 35

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the desert will be glad,  
And the Arabah will rejoice and blossom;  
Like the crocus. <sup>2</sup>It will blossom profusely  
And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy.  
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,  
The majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They will see the glory of the Lord,  
The majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen  
the feeble. <sup>4</sup>Say to those with anxious  
heart,  
“Take courage, fear not. Behold, your God  
will come with vengeance; The recompense  
of God will come, **But He will save you.**”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind will be opened  
and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.  
<sup>6</sup>Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the  
tongue of the mute will shout for joy. For  
waters will break forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the Arabah. <sup>7</sup>The scorched  
land will become a pool, and the thirsty  
ground springs of water; In the haunt of  
jackals, its resting place,  
grass becomes reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>A highway will be there, a roadway, and it  
will be called **the Highway of Holiness**.  
The unclean will not travel on it, but  
it will be for him who walks that way,  
and fools will not wander on it. <sup>9</sup>No lion will  
be there, nor  
will any vicious beast go up on it...

**But the redeemed will walk there,**  
<sup>10</sup>**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.

## Connecting Scripture Passages

### Romans 8:21-23

**...the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.** For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

### Revelation 1:7

Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.

### John 14:3 (Yeshua)

If I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you also will be.

### John 17:24 (Yeshua)

Father, I desire that they whom You have given Me be with Me where I am, so they may see My glory You have given Me for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

### 1 Corinthians 15:51-54

Behold, I tell you a mystery – we will not all sleep, but **we will all be changed in a moment** in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet, for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “Death is swallowed up in victory.”

### 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

### Revelation 19:1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is among the people, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death. There will no longer be any mourning or crying or pain; the first things have passed away!