

Biblical Notes — Isaiah 24:21-23

21-23 – So it will happen in that day, That the LORD will punish the host of heaven on high, And the kings of the earth on earth. [22] They will be gathered together Like prisoners in the dungeon, And will be confined in prison; And after many days they will be punished. [23] Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, For the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, And His glory will be before His elders.

כַּאֲנִירִי בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יַקְרֵב יְהוָה עַל־צְבָא הַמְּרוּם בְּמִקְרָם וְעַל־מֶלֶךְ הָאָרֶץ עַל־הַאֲרֶץ: אֲסֵפֶךְ אֶסְפֶּה אֲסִיר עַל־בָּזָר וְסַגְרָה עַל־מִסְגָּר וּמְרָב יְמִים יַפְאֵדוּ: כַּלְבָּנָה וּבָשָׂה קַהֲלָה כִּירְקָלָךְ יְהוָה אֲבָאָתָה בָּהּ צִוְּן וּבִרְוּשָׁלָם וְגַגְדָּן וְקַנְעִי כְּבָזָד:

“The litany of divine judgment on the nations of Isaiah's day (chapters 13-23) forms a fitting prelude to chapters 24-27, which depict God's culminating worldwide judgment and the establishment of his earthly kingdom.”

— Robert B. Chisholm, Jr., *Handbook on the Prophets* (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2002), 64.

Comparison between Isaiah 24:22-23 and Rev 19-20:

- **The Divine Judgment of the Earth** — (Isaiah 24:1-20; Rev 6-19)
- **The Second Coming of Christ** — (Rev 19:11-18)
- **The Defeat of the Kings of the Earth** — (Isaiah 24:21a; Rev 19:19-21)
- **The Imprisonment of the Kings of the Earth** — (Isaiah 24:22ab; cf. Luke 16:19-31)
- **The Imprisonment of Satan and His Demons** — (Isaiah 24:22ab; Rev 20:1-3)
- **The Intermediate Kingdom of “Many Days”/“1000 Years”** — (Isaiah 24:22c; Rev 20:1-6)
- **The Final Judgment of Satan and His Demons** — (Isaiah 24:22d; Rev 20:7-10)
- **The Final Judgment of Kings of the Earth** — (Isaiah 24:22d; Rev 20:11-15)
- **The Eternal State of the New Heavens and Earth** — (Isaiah 24:23; Rev 21-22)

“Riddlebarger makes no reference to Isaiah 24 in his brief discussion of the Day of the Lord...and only mentions Isaiah 25 in relation to resurrection....So, he fails to note not only the structure of imprisonment and future punishment for Isaiah's teaching on the coming kingdom but also the important intertextual bearing this passage has for Revelation 19-21.”

— Craig Blaising, *The Kingdom that Comes with Jesus*, 146.