

the reign of Christ during the Millennium when He "shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously."

What a wonderful picture of the course of God's testimony during the present age is contained in this chapter! It is not given merely to satisfy curiosity, but so that we may lift up our hearts and rejoice. It is given in order that we may never despair, but may glorify God in the midst of the fires. It may be our lot to face the pit and the snare. When we flee from one, we may run into the other. Yet we are to remember that God is on the throne, and that in His own time He will send back His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to set up His wonderful kingdom of righteousness and peace upon the earth.

During this age we are "displaced persons," representing our Lord in the midst of a land that is in the hands of the enemy. We should not be disheartened if our fruit does not entirely fill the whole earth. From the uttermost parts of the earth we shall hear songs of glory to the righteous God; wonderful indeed are the stories that we hear of the outreach of the gospel. Yet it is never a complete victory. Time after time, we feel impelled to cry out: "My leanness, my leanness, the treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously." It is good for us to realize that God has not promised victory in this age, but that He has promised that His Spirit will be with us to give us strength to pass through the fiery trials that await us, in order that we may give a true witness to Him and "glorify Him in the fires."

How wonderful it is to see that Isaiah and John in no way disagree with one another. The picture of the wonderful millennial reign of Christ after the end of this age, which John sees in more detail, is contained in brief and yet clear outline in this wonderful chapter of Isaiah.

Isaiah 25

Chapter 25 starts with a verse that, if it stood alone, could readily be considered as simply a conclusion to the vision given in chapter 24. Yet it is better to consider this verse as beginning a new chapter, since it is part of a series of six