

A SONG ABOUT A “STRONG CITY” VERSUS A “LOFTY TOWN”
(26:1–6)

Isaiah **26** In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

God’s covenant people “We have a strong city;
He {the Lord} makes salvation as its walls and its rampart.

²Open Your¹¹⁷ gates that the righteous nation,
which keeps faith, may enter in.

³You will keep those in perfect peace,
whose mind rests on You, because they trust in You.

⁴Trust in the LORD forever and ever,
because the LORD, the LORD is the Everlasting Rock.

For He has brought low those who dwell on high;
a lofty town, He lays it low.

⁵He lays it low, to the ground;
He casts it to the dust.

⁶The foot tramples it, the feet of the poor,
the footsteps of the needy.

A PRAYER ABOUT THE LORD’S JUDGMENTS (26:7–18)

God’s covenant people ⁷The way of the righteous, it is a level path;
it is level, the path of the righteous.
⁸Yea, O LORD, we wait in the path of Your judgments;
{our} soul’s desire are for Your name and Your remembrance.

Unnamed individual ⁹With my soul, I long for You in the night;
yea, with my spirit within me, I seek You early.
For when Your judgments are on the earth,
the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

¹⁰Though grace is shown to the wicked, he does not learn
righteousness.
In the land of uprightness, he deals with corruption and does
not see the majesty of the LORD.

¹¹O LORD, Your hand is lifted up, but they will not see;
but let them see and be ashamed

117. DSS Isaiah has the personal pronoun “your,” which refers to the Lord.

for the envy of the people;
yea, let the fire for Your adversaries consume them.

**God's
covenant
people**

¹² O LORD, You will offer peace for us,
for You have performed all of our works for us.

¹³ O LORD, our God, lords besides You have ruled over us;
in You alone, we bring to remembrance Your name.

¹⁴ They are dead; they live no more.
Their spirits do not arise.

Therefore, You have punished them,
and You have destroyed them
and have made all memory of them to perish.

¹⁵ You have increased the nation, O LORD;
You have increased the nation; You are glorified.
You have extended all the boundaries of the land.

¹⁶ O LORD, they sought You in distress;
they poured out a whisper when Your chastening was upon
them.

¹⁷ Like a woman with child when she is about to give birth,
who writhes and cries out in her pangs, so were we, because of
You, O LORD.

¹⁸ We were with child;
we writhed. It is as though we have given birth to wind.

We have not brought salvation to the earth,
and the inhabitants of the world have not come to life.

**THE LORD RESPONDS TO ISRAEL'S PRAYER AND PROMISES THE
RESURRECTION (26:19–21)**

The LORD ¹⁹ Your dead will live;
their bodies will rise.

Awake and sing gladly, O you who dwell in the dust.
For your dew is a dew of lights¹¹⁸ and the earth will cast out
the dead.

²⁰ Go, My people, enter your chambers and shut your doors
behind you;
hide for a little moment until the wrath has passed over.

118. "Dew of lights," a literal translation from the Hebrew *tal 'orot*, is a poetic expression that beautifully compares the glistening light on the morning dew to the Resurrection.

Isaiah ²¹For behold, the LORD is coming forth out of His place
to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity
and the earth will reveal the bloodshed upon it
and will no longer cover its slain.

ISRAEL WILL BE GATHERED IN THE LAST DAYS (27:1-13)

Isaiah **27** In that day the LORD will punish—
with His hard, great, and strong sword—
Leviathan, a fleeing serpent,
Leviathan, a coiling serpent, and He will slay the monster that
is in the sea.

²In that day, delightful vineyard, sing to it!

The LORD ³I, the LORD, am its keeper;
moment by moment I water it.
I keep it night and day so that no harm comes to it.
⁴I have no wrath.

Who will give Me thorns and briars?
I will march against them in battle;
I will burn them up together;

⁵but if they lay hold of My strength,
he will make peace with Me;
peace he will make with Me.

Isaiah ⁶In days to come, Jacob will take root;
Israel will blossom and flower,
and they will fill the face of the world with fruit.

⁷Has He smote {Israel} as He smote those who smote {Israel}?
Or has {Israel} been slain as its slayers were slain?

⁸By exact measure, by sending {Israel} away, You contended
with it.
He removed it with His hard wind, in the day of the east wind.

⁹Therefore by this will the iniquity of Jacob be atoned for,
and this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin;
when He makes all the stones of the altar, like chalkstones
crushed to pieces,
no Asherim or incense altars will remain standing.