

The Prophecies of Isaiah ¹²

Lesson 3

How much of Isaiah chapter 1 has been fulfilled? Only verses 24-28 remain unfulfilled. These prophecies will be fulfilled when the Lord breaks through the eastern skies to destroy His enemies at the battle of Armageddon to set up His 1,000 year kingdom during which He will rule the entire world from the city of Jerusalem.

Table 1: Scripture Fulfillment in Isaiah - Chapter 1

Passage	Summary	Time of Fulfillment
Isa. 1:1-6	<i>History/Present Day</i> - Rebellious Israel does not recognize or listen to the Lord.	Fulfilled before the time of Isaiah's delivery.
Isa. 1:7-23	<i>Near Prophecy</i> - Rebellious Israel is destroyed with only a few survivors.	Fulfilled in 722 BC.
Isa. 1:24-28	<i>Far Prophecy</i> - The Lord will come as King to remove evil.	To be fulfilled at the time of the Lord's coming at Armageddon to reign for 1,000 years on earth.
Isa. 1:29-31	<i>Near Prophecy</i> - Rebellious Israel is destroyed because of her shameful acts in the gardens and among the oaks.	Fulfilled in 722 BC.

In the next prophecy, the Lord provides Isaiah with the longest single message in the entire collection. Covering four chapters, the first three comprise a prophecy about the Lord's Second Coming to set up His kingdom on earth. Chapter 5, a continuance of the same message, tells what the Lord has already accomplished with Israel, what He will do to Israel, and the reasons why He is upset with Israel as reflected in the diagram below.

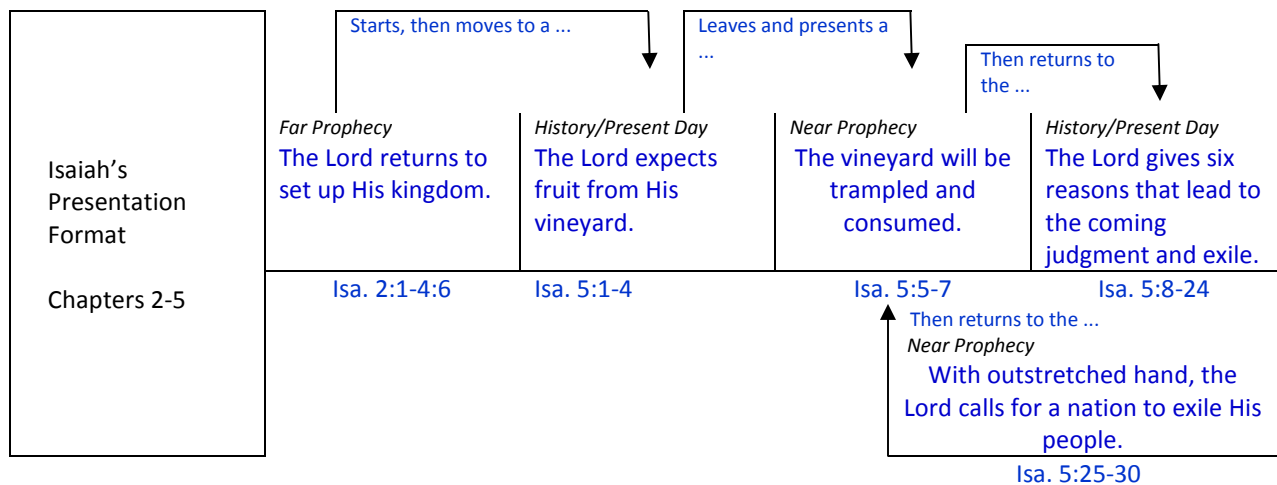


Figure 7: Second Word to Isaiah - Chapters 2-5

¹² All Scriptures in this lesson entitled "The Prophecies of Isaiah" are taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE, Copyright (C) 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1988, by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

The Lord's Mountain

Far Prophecy

CHIEF MOUNTAIN

Isaiah 2:1 The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
2 Now it will come about that in the last days, the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it. **3a** And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways, and that we may walk in His paths."

The passage clearly proclaims that the time of its fulfillment will be in the last days. When the Lord returns and establishes His house on the mountain, it will be raised above the hills. Zechariah 250 years later, records the following prophecies about that day.

Zechariah 14: 4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. **5** And you will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with Him! ... **10** All the land will be changed into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; but Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site from Benjamin's Gate as far as the place of the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's wine presses.

Habakkuk, who will prophesy more than 100 years after Isaiah, speaks about the coming of the Lord and says the following.

Habakkuk 3:3 God comes from Teman, And the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah. His splendor covers the heavens, And the earth is full of His praise. **4** His radiance is like the sunlight; He has rays *flashing* from His hand, And there is the hiding of His power. **5** Before Him goes pestilence, And plague comes after Him. **6** He stood and surveyed the earth; He looked and startled the nations. Yes, the perpetual mountains were shattered, The ancient hills collapsed. His ways are everlasting. ... **10** The mountains saw Thee *and* quaked; The downpour of waters swept by.

Micah, prophesying in the Southern Kingdom at the same time as Isaiah says the same thing in two passages.

Micah 1:4 The mountains will melt under Him, And the valleys will be split, Like wax before the fire, like water poured down a steep place.

Micah 4:1 And it will come about in the last days That the mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, And the peoples will stream to it.

When the Lord arrives on earth to establish His kingdom, the mountains of Zion and Moriah will begin to rise as one as soon as the Lord places His foot on the Mount of Olives. The new mountain will be higher than any other mountain on the earth and the entire topography of the earth will change that day.

Far Prophecy

NO WAR

Isaiah 2:3b For the law will go forth from Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ And He will judge between the nations, and will render decisions for many peoples; and they will hammer their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they learn war. ⁵ Come, house of Jacob, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

One characteristic of the Lord's reign on earth as King of kings and Lord of Lords will be the absence of war. During that time, all the instruments of war will be transformed into farm equipment. People will still need food in the 1,000-year kingdom as the population grows exponentially.

In the 1000-year kingdom, the Lord will enact a Law and peace will finally inhabit both Jerusalem and the entire world. At that time, the whole house of Jacob, his descendants called the nation of Israel, will finally walk in the light of the Lord. Only one-third of the Jews alive at that time, having survived the destruction in the wars that led up to the Lord's return, will survive. Why? The Lord will abandon the children of Jacob because of their continual sin.

Far Prophecy

JACOB ABANDONED

Isaiah 2:6 For Thou hast abandoned Thy people, the house of Jacob, because they are filled *with influences* from the east, and *they are* soothsayers like the Philistines, and they strike *bargains* with the children of foreigners. ⁷ Their land has also been filled with silver and gold, and there is no end to their treasures; their land has also been filled with horses, and there is no end to their chariots. ⁸ Their land has also been filled with idols; they worship the work of their hands, that which their fingers have made.

Isaiah tells of the Lord's abandonment of Jacob's twelve sons. When the end time occurs, the descendants of Jacob will not be divided into two kingdoms as they are during Isaiah's lifetime. When the Northern Kingdom falls in 722 BC and the Southern Kingdom follows in 606 BC, the descendants of Jacob will not control their land again until May 14th, 1948. Both will lose their kingdoms because of the accusations listed in this passage. In the end times, the nation of Israel will repeat her mistakes as she flirts with neighboring countries, accepting their influence, making deals with everyone except the Lord. Today, in all Jewish life, the descendants of Jacob reject the Lord, the Messiah Who came to offer them salvation. They are tragically alienated from the Lord because of their own decisions. In the last days, the Lord will bring an end to every Jew who seeks the salvation from any other god except the Lord Jesus Christ. Their synagogues mean nothing to the Lord. Only one-third of the Jews will accept the Lord before He breaks through the eastern skies to avenge Himself and destroy His enemies. Two-thirds of the Jews will remain His enemies until the day they die.

Far Prophecy

EXALTED LORD

Isaiah 2:9 So the *common* man has been humbled, And the man *of importance* has been abased, But do not forgive them. ¹⁰ Enter the rock and hide in the dust from the terror of the LORD and from the splendor of His majesty. ¹¹ The proud look of man will be abased, and the loftiness of man will be humbled, and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.

As the events of the last days begin to culminate, the lofty, arrogant, disobedient men and women of the world will find themselves covered with sores, scorched by the sun, and fearful for their lives. They will try to hide from the Lord in the caves and among the rocks. The prophecies of Amos and John offer the same message.

Amos 9:³ "And though they hide on the summit of Carmel, I will search them out and take them from there; and though they conceal themselves from My sight on the floor of the sea, From there I will command the serpent and it will bite them.

Revelation 6:¹⁵ And the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; ¹⁶ and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;

Far Prophecy

RECKONING DAY

Isaiah 2:¹² For the LORD of hosts will have a day of reckoning against everyone who is proud and lofty, And against everyone who is lifted up, That he may be abased. ¹³ And it will be against all the cedars of Lebanon that are lofty and lifted up, against all the oaks of Bashan, ¹⁴ against all the lofty mountains, against all the hills that are lifted up, ¹⁵ Against every high tower, Against every fortified wall, ¹⁶ against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all the beautiful craft. ¹⁷ And the pride of man will be humbled, And the loftiness of men will be abased, and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day. ¹⁸ But the idols will completely vanish.

Hebrew Names	
Their Meanings	
Bashan	<i>light soil</i>
Tarshish	<i>the sea coast</i>

Figure 8: Hebrew Names – Bashan and Tarshish

When the Lord returns, it will be a reckoning day for everyone, but especially the Jews. Through the years since the Messiah presented Himself to the Jews and they rejected him, most have arrogantly held to a form of Jewish faith that denies the Lord's first coming. In Isaiah's day, the wicked Northern Kingdom has abandoned the Mosaic law for worship of idols placed on their mantles. The worship of will continue in Jewish life in the future. But more dangerous than that, the leaders of Israel, both then, now, and until just before the day of the Lord's return, are guilty of leading their people astray. Even though there will be a Jewish revival and turning to the Lord just before His advent, not all Jewish leaders will make the transition and they are the ones whom the Lord will humble. However, the Lord will not limit His judgment to just the Jews. He will afflict every enemy on that day and all their idols will be eliminated.

In 2 Kings 19, the Bible records more of the words of Isaiah concerning Lebanon and Basham as he responds to King Hezekiah and a threat from Sennacherib. Although this passage occurs 33 years after Isaiah Chapter 2 is delivered, Sennacherib will promise to destroy the cedars of Lebanon and the oaks of Basham as he marches back through the old Northern Kingdom to take the Southern Kingdom. The Lord does not allow him to complete his plans to destroy the trees.

Far Prophecy

MEN HIDE

Isaiah 2:19 And *men* will go into caves of the rocks, And into holes of the ground before the terror of the LORD, And before the splendor of His majesty, When He arises to make the earth tremble. ²⁰ In that day men will cast away to the moles and the bats their idols of silver and their idols of gold, Which they made for themselves to worship, ²¹ In order to go into the caverns of the rocks and the clefts of the cliffs, before the terror of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty, When He arises to make the earth tremble. ²² Stop regarding man, whose breath of *life* is in his nostrils; for why should he be esteemed?

Isaiah repeats the thought found in verses 2:9-11. However, in this passage he asks them why they regard the man "whose breath of life is in his nostrils." In the last days, the people of the world, including the Jews, will have a higher regard for man than for the Lord. We see the same problem today in all religions. The Mormons speak more of Joseph Smith than they do the Lord. The Muslims speak more of Muhammad than they do the Lord. The Jehovah's Witnesses repeat the changing theology established by the committee that produces the Watch Tower magazine instead of the words of the Lord in the Scripture. Some preach the words of John Calvin and Martin Luther more than they whisper the words of Jesus found the Gospels. "Stop regarding man," the Lord says. He wants to be the One regarded by all instead of being rejected for mere mortals. Yet in the last days, all will regard the powerful and evil western leader as a god.

Far Prophecy

JERUSALEM AND JUDAH DEVASTATED

Isaiah 3:1 For behold, the Lord GOD of hosts is going to remove from Jerusalem and Judah both supply and support, the whole supply of bread, and the whole supply of water; ² The mighty man and the warrior, the judge and the prophet, the diviner and the elder, ³ The captain of fifty and the honorable man, the counselor and the expert artisan, and the skillful enchanter. ⁴ And I will make mere lads their princes and capricious children will rule over them, ⁵ and the people will be oppressed, each one by another, and each one by his neighbor; the youth will storm against the elder, and the inferior against the honorable. ⁶ When a man lays hold of his brother in his father's house, *saying*, "You have a cloak, you shall be our ruler, and these ruins will be under your charge," ⁷ on that day will he protest, saying, "I will not be *your* healer, for in my house there is neither bread nor cloak; you should not appoint me ruler of the people."

For the nation of Israel, the Lord will keep His promise and arrange the circumstances so she will have nowhere to turn for help but Him. In that day, the Jewish people will be so desperate that they will cry out for just about anyone to be their leader, but none will be able to provide their needs except the Lord. The entire book of Joel as well as large portions of many of the other prophets can be inserted here because they describe how the Lord will devastate Jerusalem and Judah in the last seven years before His second return to reign on earth. The Lord will use several means to bring the Jews to their knees and to a belief in Him. For example, He will use grasshoppers, or locusts as they are called in the Scripture. The Scriptures below show how He will use them in the end times.

Joel 1:⁴ What the gnawing locust has left, the swarming locust has eaten;
And what the swarming locust has left, the creeping locust has eaten; And
what the creeping locust has left, the stripping locust has eaten.

Joel 2:⁵ With a noise as of chariots They leap on the tops of the mountains,
Like the crackling of a flame of fire consuming the stubble, Like a mighty

people arranged for battle.

Amos 7:¹ Thus the Lord GOD showed me, and behold, He was forming a locust-swarm when the spring crop began to sprout. And behold, the spring crop was after the king's mowing.

Far Prophecy

OPEN SIN

Isaiah 3:8 For Jerusalem has stumbled, and Judah has fallen, because their speech and their actions are against the LORD, to rebel against His glorious presence. ⁹ The expression of their faces bears witness against them. And they display their sin like Sodom; they do not *even* conceal *it*. Woe to them! For they have brought evil on themselves. ¹⁰ Say to the righteous that *it will go well with them*, for they will eat the fruit of their actions. ¹¹ Woe to the wicked! *It will go badly with him*, for what he deserves will be done to him.

At the time when Isaiah delivers this message, Jerusalem and Judah are just beginning to dabble in idolatry. And although they have not rejected the physical presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh, their hearts are becoming hardened to the things of God. It could be easy to interpret this passage as a near prophecy; however, the context of the passage pushes it to the far prophecy of the Lord's second return. Ever since the Jews rejected the Lord at His first coming, their speech and actions have shown their rebellion against Him. Today, Jews are offended by the name of the Lord. Their rejection of the Lord is blatant and Isaiah compares it to the flamboyant sin that led to the destruction of Sodom. Sodom did not hide its deviant sin of homosexuality; rather, it flaunted it throughout the town and region. A man could not visit one of the five cities in the Valley of Sittim without men of the city seeking him out to have a sexual relationship with him. Israel will not be guilty of homosexuality, but she will be guilty of flaunting her rejection of the Lord and her worship of idols throughout the world as the days of the end times approach. If she will turn to the Lord, all will be well. If she continues her evil rejection of Him, she will meet with disaster.

Far Prophecy

LEADERSHIP JUDGED

Isaiah 3:12 O My people! Their oppressors are children, And women rule over them. O My people! Those who guide you lead *you* astray, And confuse the direction of your paths. ¹³ The LORD arises to contend, and stands to judge the people. ¹⁴ The LORD enters into judgment with the elders and princes of His people, "It is you who have devoured the vineyard; The plunder of the poor is in your houses. ¹⁵ "What do you mean by crushing My people, And grinding the face of the poor?" Declares the Lord GOD of hosts. ¹⁶ Moreover, the LORD said, "Because the daughters of Zion are proud, And walk with heads held high and seductive eyes, And go along with mincing steps, And tinkle the bangles on their feet, ¹⁷ Therefore the Lord will afflict the scalp of the daughters of Zion with scabs, And the LORD will make their foreheads bare."

Although the Lord makes it very clear that each individual is responsible for his own relationship with Him, He still places full blame for the national and continual rejection of Him on the leadership of the people. As Isaiah prophesies this passage, the Southern Kingdom is still in good standing with the Lord, even though in his message in other portions of this book he warns of her coming rebellion and exile. This message is not speaking of the near future but of the last days. To get to the last days, the Jews, both North and South, must go into exile, return from exile, live under the authority of other nations, reject the Lord at His first advent, be scattered throughout the world, gain control again in 1948, stave off the threats of almost every nation for centuries and finally come to the Lord when the Jewish leaders have nowhere else to turn except Him. The leaders are

guilty of every accusation in this passage. Moreover, the wives of the leaders flaunt their proud positions. Because they reject the Lord, He will send scabs upon them in the last days. John mentions this plague in The Revelation.

Revelation 16:² And the first *angel* went and poured out his bowl into the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore upon the men who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image.

Revelation 16:¹⁰ And the fifth *angel* poured out his bowl upon the throne of the beast; and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain,¹¹ and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds.

Far Prophecy

PEOPLE STRIPPED

Isaiah 3:18 In that day the Lord will take away the beauty of *their* anklets, headbands, crescent ornaments,¹⁹ dangling earrings, bracelets, veils,²⁰ headdresses, ankle chains, sashes, perfume boxes, amulets,²¹ finger rings, nose rings,²² festal robes, outer tunics, cloaks, money purses,²³ hand mirrors, undergarments, turbans, and veils.²⁴ Now it will come about that instead of sweet perfume there will be putrefaction; Instead of a belt, a rope; Instead of well-set hair, a plucked-out scalp; Instead of fine clothes, a donning of sackcloth; And branding instead of beauty.²⁵ Your men will fall by the sword, And your mighty ones in battle.²⁶ And her gates will lament and mourn; And deserted she will sit on the ground.

Throughout history and well after Isaiah's life, conquering nations have stripped their prisoners and marched them naked to their new homes or jails. It was bad enough for a man to be stripped, but for a woman to be stripped and paraded through the streets represented the ultimate in disgrace. Even in those days, women were somewhat sheltered from most wars and battles unless they were barricaded with the men in close quarters. Although, some barbarian groups slaughtered all but the children in some raids, for the most part, women were left as spoils for the conquering nations but not disgraced. Such is the case with the Medo-Persian royalty marrying the daughters and granddaughters of Nebuchadnezzar. Alexander the Great followed suit by marrying the daughter of the Medo-Persian ruler whom he defeated. The Romans did the same with the Greek royalty and the trend continues even today.

In this passage, the Lord will strip the adornments and things of value from the women of the nation of Israel. All their luxuries will be gone and they will resort to the basics for their dress. Two good examples are the belt being replaced by a piece of rope and the donning of sackcloth, which was the dress of the poorest of the poor. The women of Israel will be stripped when their wicked husbands reject the coming Lord.

Far Prophecy

DESPERATE WOMEN

Isaiah 4:1 For seven women will take hold of one man in that day, saying, "We will eat our own bread and wear our own clothes, only let us be called by your name; take away our reproach!"

For some unknown reason, the editors of the Bible placed a chapter break at this point, almost in mid sentence, and certainly in mid-thought. The Chapter 4 break must be ignored to grasp the context of the entire message of the future in this part of Isaiah's vision.

With their husbands killed in the battles, the women will become desperate and seek to be attached to any man who can possibly return them to their former status, even if the women have to provide for their own basic needs. The devastation in the last days will leave seven women for every man. Women will become the suitors of men, seeking to enter into marriage, multiple women with one man, putting aside any natural desire for monogamy, just to be attached to the name of a man, freed from the reproach of widowhood without means to continue their lifestyles.

Far Prophecy

COVERING CANOPY

Isaiah 4:2 In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth *will* be the pride and the adornment of the survivors of Israel. ³ And it will come about that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy-- everyone who is recorded for life in Jerusalem. ⁴ When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the bloodshed of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning, ⁵ then the LORD will create over the whole area of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory will be a canopy. ⁶ And there will be a shelter to *give* shade from the heat by day, and refuge and protection from the storm and the rain.

The Branch of the Lord is the Messiah. When He returns at His Second Coming, He will make the surviving offspring of the house of Jacob the pride of the world, but not all Israel will survive the last days. Paul understands this as he says in Romans 9:6-8:

... For they are not all Israel who are *descended* from Israel; ⁷ neither are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED." ⁸ That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants.

Only those whose names are recorded in the book of life will survive the last days and enter into the Lord's Kingdom. Over 100 year after Isaiah's death, Ezekiel says,

Ezekiel 13:⁹ "So My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and utter lying divinations. They will have no place in the council of My people, nor will they be written down in the register of the house of Israel, nor will they enter the land of Israel, that you may know that I am the Lord GOD.

Three hundred years before Isaiah's birth, the psalmist says:

Psalms 69:²⁶ For they have persecuted him whom Thou Thyself hast smitten, And they tell of the pain of those whom Thou hast wounded. ²⁷ Do Thou add iniquity to their iniquity, And may they not come into Thy righteousness. ²⁸ May they be blotted out of the book of life, And may they not be recorded with the righteous.

John, the Lord's last living Apostle says in 96 AD:

Revelation 3:⁵ He who overcomes shall thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels.

Revelation 3:¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I would that you were cold or hot.

The Lord's judgment on the day of His return will wash away all filth from the earth, Jew and Gentile alike. In the furnace of Armageddon, He will separate the dross from the silver, the bad from the good. Ezekiel sheds light on this topic.

Ezekiel 22:¹⁸ "Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to Me; all of them are bronze and tin and iron and lead in the furnace; they are the dross of silver. ¹⁹ "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Because all of you have become dross, therefore, behold, I am going to gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. ²⁰ 'As they gather silver and bronze and iron and lead and tin into the furnace to blow fire on it in order to melt *it*, so I shall gather *you* in My anger and in My wrath, and I shall lay *you there* and melt you. ²¹ 'And I shall gather you and blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and you will be melted in the midst of it. ²² 'As silver is melted in the furnace, so you will be melted in the midst of it; and you will know that I, the LORD, have poured out My wrath on you.'"

Those who survive will be the blessed fruit of the earth for the Lord, the nation above all nations, the Lord choice of His people. The Lord will bring back the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night to cover and surround the new city of Jerusalem thousands of years after the Israelites come out of the wilderness experience. Zechariah says:

Zechariah 2:⁵ 'For I,' declares the LORD, 'will be a wall of fire around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.'"

The cloud and the fire will be the Lord's visible protection of the new city for 1,000 years. They will be like a canopy that reflects the glory of the Lord. For all of the inhabitants of the city, it will protect Jerusalem from the elements.