

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

Isaiah 59:15-21

Sunday August 2, 2015

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. What did God see when He looked upon the people living in Judah and Jerusalem?

God was appalled to see truth was lacking or nowhere to be found. He saw injustice, and those who had turned from evil had become the victims of those who did evil. There was no one intervening in behalf of His people to help them. Leadership was corrupt.

2. What sustained or upheld God when He considered the situation in the Promised Land?

The fact that God always acted in righteousness, or always said and did what was right, sustained or upheld Him in

the face of all the evil He saw. God had given them His law to guide them, but the leaders and people had come to disregard His law; they preferred doing evil and afflicting those who did good. God knew that to resolve this situation He would act in righteousness to achieve salvation for His people and to repay their enemies with retribution.

3. What two pieces of armor did God put on in order to help His true followers?

God put on the breastplate of righteousness and the helmet of salvation.

4. What did God say He would do to those who practiced evil?

He would repay them according to what they had done. They would reap what they had sown. Those who practiced evil were His enemies and the enemies of His people and He would bring them under judgment and punishment, which He did after sending many prophets to warn them (prophets they rejected along with their words).

5. Who did God say He would send, to whom would He send Him, what would He do, and what would be the results of His coming?

God promised to send the Redeemer, to those who repent of their sins, to make a new covenant and put His Spirit upon (within) them, to give them His words, which would not depart from them from generation to generation forever.

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