

<u>Isaiah 1-5</u> Introduction How can one be spared judgement and live happily ever after?	<u>Isaiah 6-39</u> New Creation God will rule over a new, perfect and eternal creation	<u>Isaiah 40-55</u> New relationship God will restore his people from exile to a permanent relationship	<u>Isaiah 56-66</u> Who God will choose the humble and reject the proud
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Isaiah 2:1-22 (NIVUK)

2 This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

² In the last days
the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established
as the highest of the mountains;
it will be exalted above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it.
³ Many peoples will come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the temple of the God of Jacob.
He will teach us his ways,
so that we may walk in his paths.'
The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
⁴ He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into ploughshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war any more.
⁵ Come, descendants of Jacob,
let us walk in the light of the LORD.



'Let Us Beat Swords into Ploughshares' is a bronze sculpture by Soviet artist Evgeniy Vuchetich (1908–74). It shows a man forging a sword into a ploughshare, symbolising the transformation of weapons into tools for peace. The USSR gifted the sculpture to the United Nations on December 4, 1959, with Vassily V. Kuznetsov presenting it to Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld.

Sunday 3 August 2025

#1 Eternal life

God's literal presence... (v2-3)

...leads to world peace! (v4-5)

Chapter 1-5 summary How can one be spared judgement and live happily ever after?	1:1-31 Judah's relationship with God has broken down horrendously	2:1-5 God promises a future of world peace	2:6-22 God promises to end the world, where he will humble the haughty
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⁶ You, LORD, have abandoned your people,
the descendants of Jacob.
They are full of superstitions from the East;
they practise divination like the Philistines
and embrace pagan customs.
⁷ Their land is full of silver and gold;
there is no end to their treasures.
Their land is full of horses;
there is no end to the chariots.
⁸ Their land is full of idols;
they bow down to the work of their hands,
to what their fingers have made.
⁹ So people will be brought low
and everyone humbled –
do not forgive them.^a
¹⁰ Go into the rocks, hide in the ground
from the fearful presence of the LORD
and the splendour of his majesty!
¹¹ The eyes of the arrogant will be humbled
and human pride brought low;
the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.
¹² The LORD Almighty has a day in store
for all the proud and lofty,
for all that is exalted
(and they will be humbled),
¹³ for all the cedars of Lebanon, tall and lofty,
and all the oaks of Bashan,
¹⁴ for all the towering mountains
and all the high hills,
¹⁵ for every lofty tower
and every fortified wall,
¹⁶ for every trading ship^b
and every stately vessel.

#2 Judgement Day

In response to his people's
worldliness... (v6-8)

...God will humble those who exalt
themselves... (v9-18)

^a Or not raise them up

^b Hebrew every ship of Tarshish

<u>3:1-4:1</u> The Babylonian exile will lead to a pitiful remnant left in Jerusalem	<u>4:2-6</u> God promises a perfect future relationship with his people	<u>5:1-7</u> God feels exasperation and frustration towards Judah	<u>5:8-30</u> Judah's vast sin will be judged very harshly by God
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¹⁷ The arrogance of man will be brought low
and human pride humbled;

the LORD alone will be exalted in that day,

¹⁸ and the idols will totally disappear.

¹⁹ People will flee to caves in the rocks
and to holes in the ground

from the fearful presence of the LORD
and the splendour of his majesty,
when he rises to shake the earth.

²⁰ In that day people will throw away
to the moles and bats

their idols of silver and idols of gold,
which they made to worship.

²¹ They will flee to caverns in the rocks
and to the overhanging crags

from the fearful presence of the LORD
and the splendour of his majesty,
when he rises to shake the earth.

²² Stop trusting in mere humans,
who have but a breath in their nostrils.^c
Why hold them in esteem?

...which will be utterly terrifying!
(v19-21)

Possible escape?
Stop trusting in mere humans (v22)

^c Or *anger*



For reflection

1. What might hinder us from wholeheartedly believing:
 - a. the goodness of eternal life
 - b. the severity of judgement day?

2. Is your version of God 'allowed' to execute judgement day like Isaiah 2?

3. Which parts of Isaiah 2 do you find helpful or encouraging?

4. Which parts of Isaiah 2 do you want God's help to be able to read devotionally?