

July 31, 1996

Asl

Leviathan

In Isa 27:1-6 (Amp) it speaks of something profoundly significant that will take place *in that day* (verses 1 & 2), meaning the *present day* we are **now** living in. This is speaking of the days just before His coming and what will happen at the end of this age. *In that day*, Yahweh will *deliver* Israel and punish *Leviathan*, the *fleeing serpent*. This serpent is mentioned again in Rev 12:9, as well as in Rev 20:3. Yahweh will slay the monster that is in the *sea*. The word *sea* is often used in scripture to denote *the nations*. At the end of this age, at our Master's return, this serpent will not be allowed to use its powers of *rebellion and darkness* to deceive the *nations* any longer.

The prophets Isaiah and John draw from this ancient mythological dragon in their prophecies and pinpoint this creature as the *great serpent of old*, the enemy of Israel — the *devil* and *Satan*. Yahweh promises to *deliver* Israel from this *fleeing serpent* and from the *rebel powers of evil and darkness* (which this serpent represents) once He has a people who will obediently live by *Divine Strength* and make *complete surrender* to Him — Isa 27:5; Lk 14:31-33. The *worthless* will be burned up (*the briars and thorns*) which represent the *inward, internal* enemies which we must overcome if we want to be delivered from this serpent.

The fleeing serpent here is called Levi-athan (#3882). I emphasize that, because *levi* means attached: as a snake which embeds its poisonous fangs in your flesh and won't let go. Yahweh describes the enemy of Israel as a "*fleeing*" *serpent* which attaches himself to us. He is the *twisting* and *winding* serpent. It's something which is attached to you, an evil which pervades the whole world. It coils and twists itself into a ring around you (like the python or anaconda of South America which coils itself around its victim, smothering it to death). It *surrounds* and has a hold on you and is also what has a hold over all the nations. He is the serpent of the *sea*, which will be cast down — Rev 12:9. This serpent both deceives the whole world and comes against God's people and His purpose.

Levi — something joined, united or fastened to you, having affections towards you or being the object of your affection; to be devoted to, fond of, possessive towards.

Israel is spoken of in verse 2 as a beloved vineyard which Yahweh *causes* (verse 6) to take root and bear *abundant fruit*. He prunes it and tenderly cares for it to ensure that it sends forth shoots and blossoms — filling the *whole world* with its fruit — Mt 21:43; Dan 2:44.

This is the prophecy of Isa 49:6 concerning the twelve tribes of Israel being regathered. Yahweh causes it to take root. Many claim their loyalty, but have no firm root in themselves. The seed never made it to good soil — Mt 13:20-23. It never died and produced a crop 30, 60, or 100 times itself, which all seeds will do if they die and are planted in good soil. The fruit has to come. It's an eternal law of God. Those who have no root in themselves don't make it to good soil, but fall upon rocky ground because of all the internal corruption in them which they aren't *willing* to give up. It remains attached to them, so then the briars and thorns grow up and *choke* out the struggling plant. Levi-athan does this — Mt 13:28,40.

Messiah came to undo the *works of the evil one* (1 Jn 3:8), but He can't do anything without our co-operation. He is the *fleeing* serpent. The serpent flees and comes back, flees and comes back, flees and comes back, etc., until he can find a final resting place in someone. He comes at the *opportune* time. Whenever we give him *opportunity* he comes back and doesn't flee unless we cast him out. Eventually he will be cast out altogether and sealed in the abyss for 1,000 years. It will be the outcome of our *diligence and unity* in ruling over him by the strength God supplies — Rev 20:1-3. If we never surrender to our Master Yahshua, then we go unprotected and the fleeing serpent has continual access to do whatever he so desires through us. Just like our Master said to his brothers, their time was always opportune (Lk 4:13). If we don't take the opportunity, then you can be certain the fleeing serpent will take opportunity to attach himself to us and even use us to defile others.

Do you realize that you are on *holy* ground in God's temple? Or has the serpent fastened himself around you and deceived you into thinking that there is no reality to God's dwelling place? If so, he has found a place in you to exist and work through — causing others to stumble.

The serpent has beguiled you, just as he has the whole world. You are joining the rest of the world which has been deceived by his schemes and trickery.

But if you will look squarely at the deception which has overtaken you and in your heart hate the *rebellion* and darkness which has prevailed over you, there is hope. Realize that your intelligence is fallen and because of rebellion you are susceptible to the prince and power of the air who rules over the *sons of disobedience* — Eph 6:12; 2:2-3.

Once something is *attached* to you, *it has power*. We must be attached to something greater to be protected from the winding, coiling, choking tentacles of the fleeing serpent. In Yahshua our Master we are guarded in His name and have power to do combat. We are empowered and get to the serpent before he attaches himself to us. If our *internal* enemy attaches himself to us, like briars and thorns, then we must be violent against them. We can't succumb to the evil one's power and become *rebels* like him. We can't lie there passively while he destroys others through us. We have to stop giving him access and instead find access to our Father through repentance and going to the throne of grace. We're not meant to overcome without grace.

Thorns have barbed hooks which dig into our flesh and anchor themselves there. Often the only way out of a bramble bush which has fastened itself to us securely is by stepping back. We have to get ourselves out of the situation we walked into. We can be arrogant and plow on through, but it only entangles us further. We have to get to where we can see things more *objectively*. We do this by surrendering our lives and our sovereignty to Him and ceasing to resist the only God who can deliver us from the serpent.

The *serpent of old* has been a rebel since the very beginning and he has created a world of rebellion. The only way out of it is through Yahshua the Messiah. If you place your complete confidence in Him, you too can become a fruitful vine and yield an abundance of fruit for His Kingdom.

The decision is yours. Take a good long look at your rebellion, the fruit of your life. What has it produced? You're being choked, twisted in your character and personality by his deceptions. Your life is being wasted when it could be so productive. The evil one has attached

himself to you and doesn't want to let go. He's fastened his grip onto you and is coming in for the death blow. Only through our Master (in His name which holds all authority) can you be totally delivered from your bent ways and iniquities.

It's that first generation that the enemy wants to get to the most because they are the breakers for all future generations. Amatz shared once that if his generation doesn't make it, then all the work that's been accomplished thus far will have all been in vain. Our Father wants to be the God of *all the families* of Israel — going from the stem generation all the way through till the third and fourth generation of the male child.

Consider well what Isaiah the prophet spoke of here in Isa 27 and make *Shalom* with Him before it's too late. Don't allow the ground of your heart to become so hard that you can't hear our Master's voice. Let the seed go down into fertile soil. "Yes, make Shalom (peace) with Me," Yahweh says, "and I will deliver you from all your enemies and you will become a fruitful garden" — Isa 61:11.