### Isaiah

## Chapter 61

[Editor Note: The text says, in verse 8, that much of the following is not being spoken by God, but by ‘the Lord,’ who communicated God’s words. So, we have not capitalized the personal pronouns where we think he was speaking.]   
  
1‘The Breath of Jehovah is upon me,  
 And I’ve been anointed by Him  
 To announce good news to the poor.  
  
 ‘He sent me to heal broken hearts,  
 To proclaim a freedom to captives  
 And a recovery of sight to the blind…  
 2To call for a year of Jehovah’s favor,  
 As well as a day of vengeance,  
 And to comfort those who are sad.  
  
 3‘Instead of ashes, I’m bringing glory  
 To those who are mourning for Zion…  
 An anointing of gladness to all those who mourn  
 That will serve as glorious clothing,  
 Instead of the spirit of being unclean.  
  
 ‘They’ll be called, ‘A Generation of the Righteous’…  
 ‘A Planting to the Glory of [God].’  
 4Then, throughout the ages, they’ll build in the deserts…  
 In places that were once desolation.  
  
 ‘They’ll arise and revive desert cities,  
 Which, throughout generations, lay wasted.  
 5Foreign peoples will come there to tend your sheep,  
 And Philistines will be your vinedressers and plowmen.  
  
 6‘Then, Priests of Jehovah, you will be called…  
 They’ll say you’re the servants of God.  
 You’ll devour the strength of the nations,  
 And be admired because of your wealth.  
 7So, once again, you’ll inherit the land,  
 With ages of joy over your heads.  
  
 8‘For, I am the Lord… A lover of justice,  
 And one who hates unrighteous seizures.  
 So, to the righteous, I will return  
 The things for which they’ve worked hard,  
 And I’ll make an age-long Agreement with them.  
  
 9‘Then their offspring will be known by the nations,  
 And their descendants will be known by all people.  
 Yes, all that see them will recognize them,  
 For they’ll be an offspring that’s blest by God  
 10And find joy in the joy of the Lord.  
  
 ‘May my soul shout in praise of Jehovah,  
 For He’s wrapped me in a coat of salvation  
 And in an inner garment of joy!  
 A garland, He’s placed on my head, like a groom,  
 And like a bride, He’s adorned me with jewels.  
  
 11‘As flowers that grow from the ground  
 And as seeds that sprout in a garden,  
 The Lord Jehovah will raise what is righteous,  
 And bring joy to all of the nations.’