

v. 12-- He must punish this--not by His choice, for He gives us every possible chance to turn to Him first, but Justice must be done, and God is Justice.

v. 13-14-- God will provide all we need to make us what He wants us to be. He cannot do this to people with their eyes on this world. He needs our total commitment to Him and our eyes always on Him and His ways.

v. 15-- So His chosen people are those with the right hearts, not gained by birthright.

v. 16-- Whenever we turn completely to Him in this life, bless ourselves with the entirety of His blessing, and swear allegiance to Him alone, our sins are forgiven and He sees them no more.

v. 17-18-- He's speaking of the New Heavens and the New Earth, when the New Jerusalem will be set in place, on the foundation which is being made by His people right now.

v. 19-20-- There will be no sickness and people will live long.

v. 21-22-- There won't be fighting and one group conquering another, we will all be one people.

v. 23-25-- The Lord will be in perfect communication with them and everything will be in perfect peace. Now our communication with Him is hindered by our own imperfection of body and mind, and by the imperfection of the earth itself.

Chapter 66

v. 1-2-- God says He made everything. There are no cathedrals, temples, or anything we can build Him. What He wants is our humble hearts coming to Him.

v. 3-- Again He says rituals and empty sacrifices sicken Him.

v. 4-- Even for their obvious religious actions, they are far from Him Jesus said in Mark 7:13 that religious traditions make the Word of God of none effect. Religious people lose the realization of their part in the Body of Christ, and their part in God's power, the voice of the Holy Spirit is dulled to them, as they seek God carnally instead of through the Spirit. So these people are dulled with fears, not by God's choice, but by their own, because they have chosen the carnal approach to God, which is easily infiltrated by Satan and his feelings of fear, etc.

v. 5-6-- People come to the Lord through our testimony.