

**“Through the Bible in a Year with Pastor Don and the FBC Family”  
August 13, 2016**

**Isaiah 27:1–28:29.** Salvation and discipline for Israel.

**Luke 9:28–62.** Christ did not come to judge, but to offer grace.

**Job 6:14–30.** Job lets his “friends” know how discouraging they are.

**COMMENTS:**

**Isaiah 27:1–28:29. Chapter 27** speaks of God’s coming judgment on the world and salvation of Israel and Judah. The “*vineyard*” is Israel; but here the prophet sees both the Israel of his day and the Israel of the future day when the kingdom will be established. God had not rejected His people (**27:4**); He just yearned for them to return to Him and fervently trust Him. He used war (Assyria) to punish the Northern Kingdom and Captivity (Babylon) to discipline the Southern Kingdom (**27:8**), but He did this in love and not in anger. Verses **10–11** are a description of Jerusalem after the Babylonian siege. God temporarily took away His mercy until His purposes were fulfilled. In “the Day of the Lord,” God will use suffering to purge His people and prepare them for their kingdom. The Babylonian Captivity cured the Jews of their idolatry once and for all (**Isa. 27:9**). In Isaiah’s day, the vineyard was producing wild grapes; but in the future kingdom, Israel will be fruitful and flourishing. God will guard His people and give them all that they need to bring glory to His name. The nation will “blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.” Through Israel, all the nations of the earth will be blessed (Gen. 12:1–3). The Bible speaks of three vines: the people of Israel (Isa. 5; 27), Christ and His church (John 15), and godless Gentile society, “the vine of the earth” (Rev. 14:18). The vineyard of Israel is not bearing fruit, the “vine of the earth” is producing poisonous fruit, and God’s people must be faithful branches in the Vine and produce fruit that glorifies God’s name. **Chapter 28** describes woes on Jerusalem. Note the various sins of the people in the nation: drunkenness, indulgence, “power politics,” pride, rejection of God’s Word, etc. The name “Jerusalem” means “city of peace,” but throughout its history it has been associated more with conflict than with peace. Even today, Jerusalem is a focal point for concern in the Middle East. “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem,” admonished the psalmist (Psa. 122:6). Why pray for Jerusalem? Because Jerusalem is God’s nation and when He brings peace to Jerusalem, then there will be peace in the whole world (Isa. 52:7; 66:12).

**Luke 9:28–62.** This section gives us a bit of insight into the attitudes or personalities of the disciples of Jesus that is not often revealed. When a Samaritan village rejects Christ (because He is set on going to their rival capital, Jerusalem) James and John want to destroy the settlement by fire from heaven. They are still thinking of Elijah, having recently seen him on the mountain. Elijah called down fire on his enemies—twice, in quick succession (2 Kings 1:10–12). But this is not Jesus’ way. He has not come to curse his enemies, but to bless them. Thank God, for our sake, that He bore all human sin on the cross instead of blasting everyone. To be sure, He will come back, but first He provides grace for complete forgiveness for anyone who will come to Him.

**Job 6:14–30.** Being disappointed in his friends, he lets them know their ministry provided neither encouragement nor hope. They didn't pity him or try to meet his needs. They were like a dry brook in the desert that disappoints thirsty travelers. They were his "friends" as long as he was prosperous; but when trouble came, they turned against him. Job made two requests of his friends: "Teach me" (6:24) and "Look upon me" (6:28). He didn't need accusation; he needed illumination! But they wouldn't even look him in the face and behold his plight. Physically, the three men were sitting with Job on the ash heap; but emotionally, they were like the priest and Levite, passing by "on the other side"

*Romans 11:36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.*

*Pastor Don*