

# SEE THE KING!

with Isaiah

*'Your eyes will behold the King in his beauty (Is. 33:17)'*



Handouts to help you read & understand –  
for personal Bible study, reading the Bible with a friend or with a group

## 3<sup>d</sup> Session      **THEME: When nightmares come true**

**1. Start with prayer. Then look at this icebreaker question.      10 minutes to get started**

Sometimes it feels like you find yourself in a nightmare. But it is not a nightmare, it is real. Have you recently experienced that? What helps you personally in such a situation?

Today we will read a long passage. Judeah and Jerusalem found themselves in a situation like a nightmare: the Assyrian invasion. Isaiah prophecies to help them. To find real help, they must no longer look to men, but pay attention to their troubled relationship with God. If they would be right with God, they could be sure that all would be well with them.

**2. Read Isaiah 2:22 – 4:6      30 minutes to answer these questions**

### **Look again at 2:22 (and 3:1-9)**

Isaiah, on behalf of the Lord, wanted to help the people in the 'nightmare crisis' they were facing.

- Why is it not wise to expect help from humans, when your relationship with God is not right? (For an answer, look at 3:1-9)

### **Look again at 3:10-15**

In the 'nightmare crisis' wherein they found themselves, the righteous had to hear that it would be well with them. For them their time was like the time wherein Israel was in Egypt: great plagues came upon the country – but they would be saved. The Lord would stand up for 'his people'. He always does!

- How can you know that you are one of those righteous, in other words, that you are right with God?
- Is there a comfort in this verse that encourages you in your current situation?

### **Look again at 3:16-4:1**

The ungodly in Jerusalem looked at all kind of men for authority to protect them. And they looked at all kinds of jewellery, to be beautiful, glorious and attractive. Whereas inward beauty of holiness and righteousness were ignored (see verse 15). Outward beauty and attention for what you look like, are not condemned here, or elsewhere in the Bible (see also Genesis 24:53). But attention for inward beauty which cannot be taken away from you, should precede it and should have the main emphasis (c. I Peter 3:1-6).

- Is it good or not to pay attention to your appearance? Why?

### **Look again at 4:2-6**

'The branch of the Lord' is a reference to the Messiah. Many such references will follow throughout the book of Isaiah. The prophecy, given in this passage, shows why it will be well with the righteous and finds its fulfilment in Jesus Christ.

- Which things in this passage, do already apply to us, in Christ?

**3. Apply and end with prayer.      15 minutes to make it personal and to pray**

We may experience things that are like a nightmare. Read 3:10 once more and take some moments of silence. What do you want to take with you from today's passage? Share and end with prayer.