

LIFE IS A HIGHWAY

Isaiah 35.1-10

In chapter 34, Isaiah has prophesied God's judgment against the enemies of Israel. In chapter 35, Isaiah writes to a defeated Hebrew people who are in exile and long to return to their homeland. But the writing looks beyond the people's current situation to the future when God will ultimately redeem his people and lead them to a place of everlasting gladness and joy.

As followers of Jesus, we are exiles on this earth (1 Peter 1.1) but we are on a highway out of here!

⇒ We know who we are: We have been **REDEEMED**. Isaiah 35.9

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.
1 Corinthians 1.30

⇒ We know where we are: We're on the Highway of Holiness. So we live **HOLY LIVES**. Isaiah 35.8

Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."
1 Peter 1.13-16

⇒ The highway can be lengthy, so along the way we **ENCOURAGE** and **STRENGTHEN ONE ANOTHER**. Isaiah 35.3-4

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10.23-25

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?