

Isaiah 35

Isaiah 35 is a prophecy about the restoration of Israel, which is fulfilled in Christ and His church (the church of Christ). Verses **1** and **2** say that the dead land would be alive again, just as we were dead in our trespasses and sins (**Ephesians 2:1**) but have been made alive in Christ (**Eph. 2:5**).

Verse **3** is quoted in **Hebrews 12:12**, and verse **4** tells God's people to encourage the discouraged. **Hebrews 3:13** and **10:24-25** also tell us to do that. This page will be for this purpose: to encourage us to live holy lives and offer holy sacrifices to our holy God each day—in our thoughts and our words and our deeds.

Verses **5**, **6**, and **7** of **Isaiah 35** also contain images of healing of people as well as healing of the land. These all are pointing forward to what Christ would do through His sacrifice. When Jesus lived on earth, He physically healed the blind, the deaf, the lame, and the mute. These miracles are called *signs* because they were indicators of a greater spiritual truth. The truth is that Jesus provides spiritual healing through His blood so we could be forgiven by God.

To make it easier to travel through the green land, there will be a highway. The spiritual nature of the land's restoration is seen in the kind of highway that would be provided—a highway of holiness. The difficulties and dangers to travel would be removed, as verse **9** suggests.

We are made holy by God's word (**John 17:17**). Sanctification requires our obedience to His word, the expression of His will (**1 Thess. 4:3**). Regardless of our past, we will not go wrong with God's guidance, as **Isaiah 35:8** promises.

Verse **10** shows clearly that this is a restoration passage; as in all restoration passages, we see the fulfillment in Christ.