

*RBCPC*  
*2011 Study Series*



*Study Guide*

*Week #3*

*“Reversing the Purity Rules”*

Isaiah 19:18-25  
Bruce Humphrey  
October 29/30, 2011

[www.rbcpc.org/mark-up-isaiah/](http://www.rbcpc.org/mark-up-isaiah/)

Next Week: *“Redeemed”*  
Isaiah 43:1-7  
Bruce Humphrey

*“Mark Up Isaiah”*  
Isaiah 19:18-25

Read and reflect on the following scriptures:

**Isaiah 19:18-25**

<sup>18</sup> *In that day five cities in Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to the LORD Almighty. One of them will be called the City of the Sun.*

<sup>19</sup> *In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the heart of Egypt, and a monument to the LORD at its border.* <sup>20</sup> *It will be a sign and witness to the LORD Almighty in the land of Egypt. When they cry out to the LORD because of their oppressors, he will send them a savior and defender, and he will rescue them.* <sup>21</sup> *So the LORD will make himself known to the Egyptians, and in that day they will acknowledge the LORD. They will worship with sacrifices and grain offerings; they will make vows to the LORD and keep them.* <sup>22</sup> *The LORD will strike Egypt with a plague; he will strike them and heal them. They will turn to the LORD, and he will respond to their pleas and heal them.*

<sup>23</sup> *In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together.* <sup>24</sup> *In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing on the earth.* <sup>25</sup> *The LORD Almighty will bless them, saying, “Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance.”*

Notes:

**1 Corinthians 7:12-14**

<sup>12</sup> *To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her.* <sup>13</sup> *And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him.* <sup>14</sup> *For the **unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband.** Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.*

Notes:

*“Mark Up Isaiah”*  
Isaiah 19:18-25

Discussion Guide

**Scripture**

1. Read the Isaiah scripture again. When Isaiah says “in that day,” what “day” is he talking about?
2. What might have to happen before that day actually comes?
3. Mark, or highlight, each action that Isaiah says the Lord will do. What promise does this hold to the faithful people of Judah?
4. What is the overall purpose of Isaiah’s prophecy?
5. Why would this prophecy matter to the people of Judah, ie., why would they care if the Egyptians and Assyrians turned their hearts to the Lord?  
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6. Read the John scripture. What relationships mentioned here?
7. What does this scripture say about the value of influence?
8. What does this say about your relationships with non-believers?
9. Why might this be a message of hope?  
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10. Bonus question: What is the connection between these two scriptures?

*Answer to last week’s bonus question: Deuteronomy 6:13.*

**Sermon**

*“The Bible teaches us that our purity is stronger than the world’s sin. As we seek the balance of separation from the world versus engagement with the world, doesn’t connecting and serving others take priority over protecting our religious purity?” Bruce Humphrey*

1. How do you keep “pure” in the midst of sin, or a sinful environment?
2. Explain Isaiah’s reversal of the purity rules.
3. How is the “reversal of the purity rules” a prophecy of the ministry of Jesus?
4. What purity rules did Jesus break? (Hints: Matt. 9:11, 13:33, 15:2)
5. How might this concept redefine the way you interact with people of other faith traditions?
6. Share a time when you followed the “rules” at the expense of a relationship. In light of this study, how might you have handled that situation differently?

**Prayer**

Personal: Ask Jesus to open your eyes to one “purity rule” that you are holding on to unnecessarily. Pray others may come to know and honor Jesus through their relationship with you.

Group: Pray that the fellowship of each other, with Christ at the center, will strengthen each of you as you engage with others this week.

