

Welcome to Calvary Church, Brighton



Today 15th July 2018 speaker Philip Wells, Full-time Elder.
This morning - "a vision of everything especially the end"

www.calvary-brighton.org.uk

calvary-brighton.sermon.net

"Fortune cookie" living:

"what goes around comes around"

– Moral foundation of the universe

"you've got to make the most of life while you're here"

– Shortness of life

"he had a good innings, and a lovely send-off"

– Meaning of death

"the things that I sense and feel are THE real and important things"

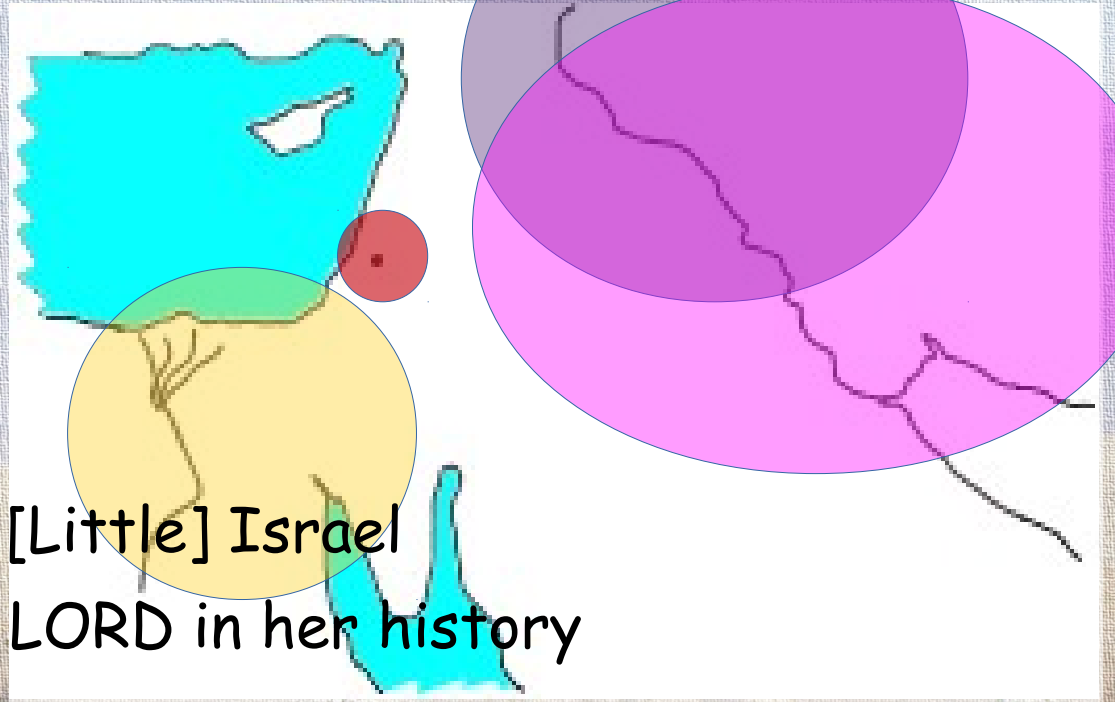
– Way to get at truth

Etc. etc.

"I insist in the Lord that you no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking" Ephesians 4:1

= much to do with beginning and the end

The context of the book of Isaiah



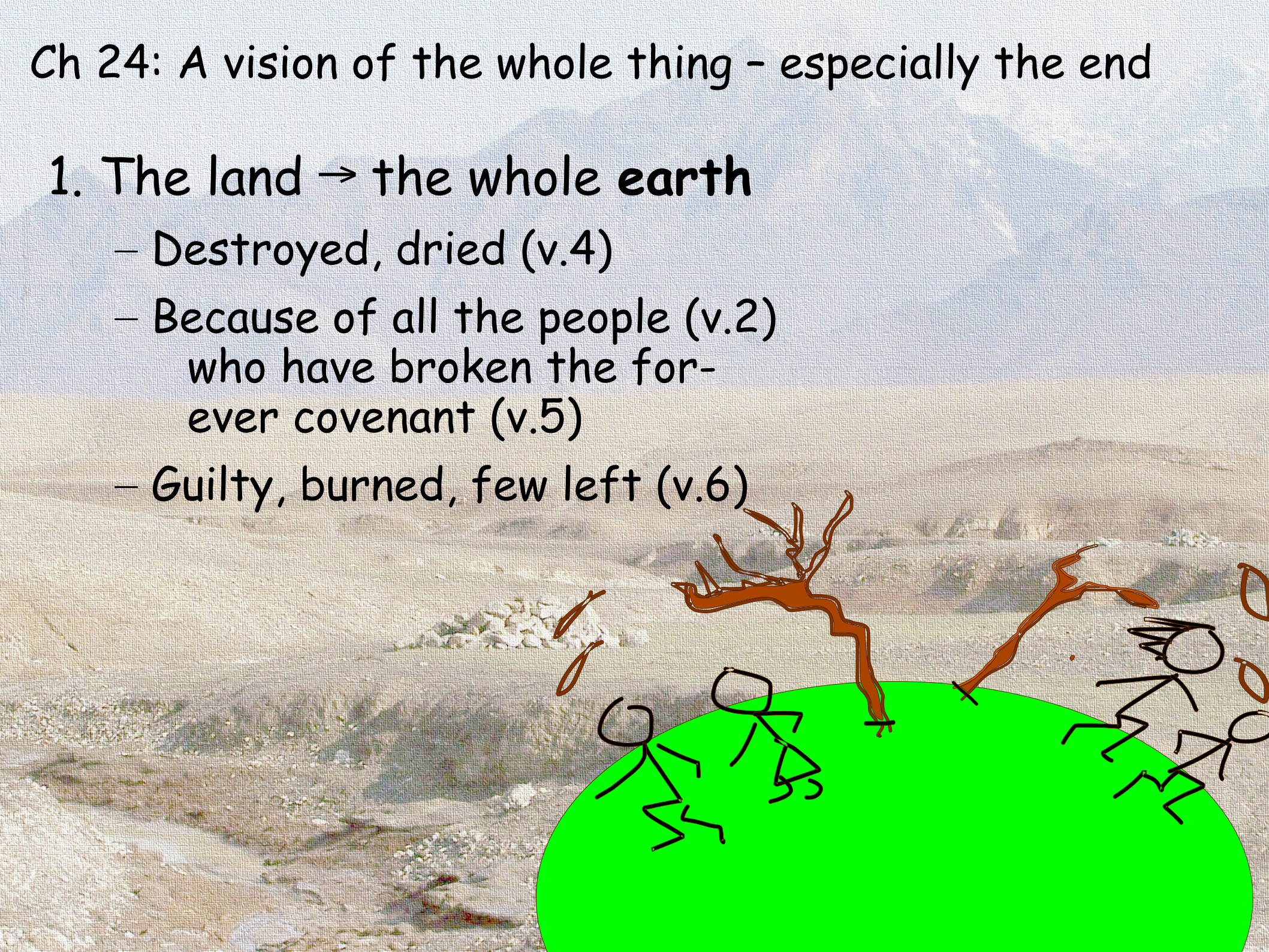
So it is in the practical life of [Little] Israel

- chosen and redeemed by the LORD in her history
- thus in covenant
 - i.e. with promises given e.g. to protect for ever
 - With responsibilities of gratitude, love, total service
- under pressure from Aram
 - ... King Ahaz seeking help from Assyria "I am your servant ... come and save me out of the hand of the King of Aram" took silver and gold from the temple of the LORD (2 Kings 16:8)
 - No trust in the promises, no loving fear of the LORD, spin off into daily life

Ch 24: A vision of the whole thing - especially the end

1. The land → the whole earth

- Destroyed, dried (v.4)
- Because of all the people (v.2)
who have broken the for-
ever covenant (v.5)
- Guilty, burned, few left (v.6)



Ch 24: A vision of the whole thing, especially the end

2. Human happiness

- Wine, music – stops
- City ruined
- Few left (v.13)



3. BUT – for the people of God

- Raised voices in joy
- Singing
- Majesty glory
- Righteous One



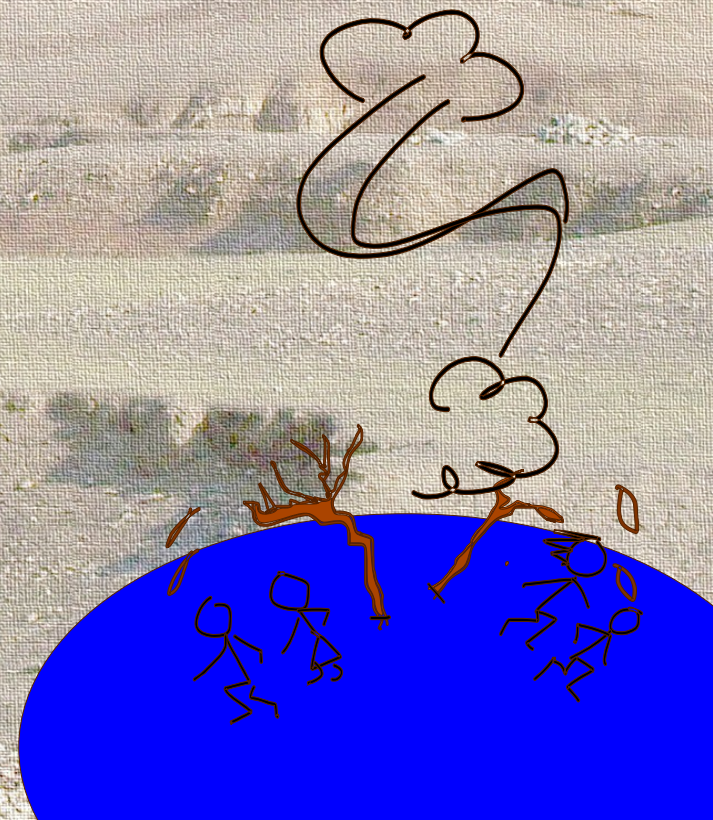
Ch 24: A vision of the whole thing - especially the end

4. The anguish of betrayal

- The treacherous treacherify,
with treachery the
treacherous treacherify (x5)
- Who? Israel, the false nations?
- The certainty that they won't
get away with it

5. the earth (ii)

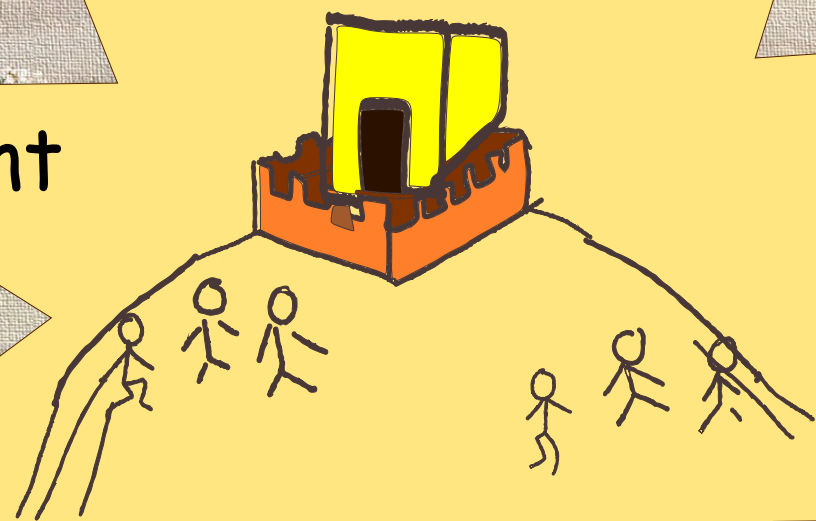
+ v.18 flooded, split, battered



Ch 24: A vision of the whole thing - especially the end

7. "In that day" the LORD will visit the powers in heaven above and the kings on the earth below

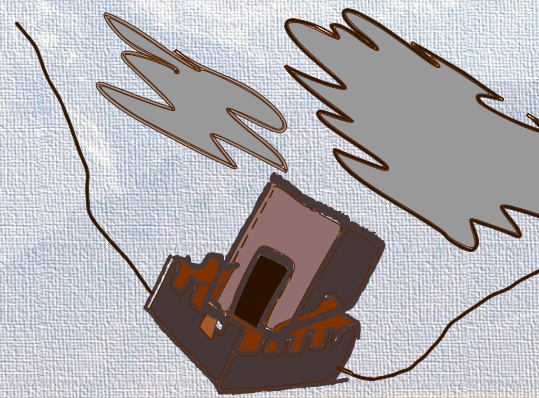
- imprisoned
- sun and moon abashed
- the LORD will reign on mount Zion and [city] Jerusalem in glory



Ch 25: A vision of the whole thing - especially the end

1. Praise to the LORD

- [not treachery] faithful faithfulness
- planned long ago
- to demolish the world-city
- to get glory and fear from ruthless [=fearsome] peoples
- to be a shelter to the covenant poor and **needy**
- to defend them from their enemies



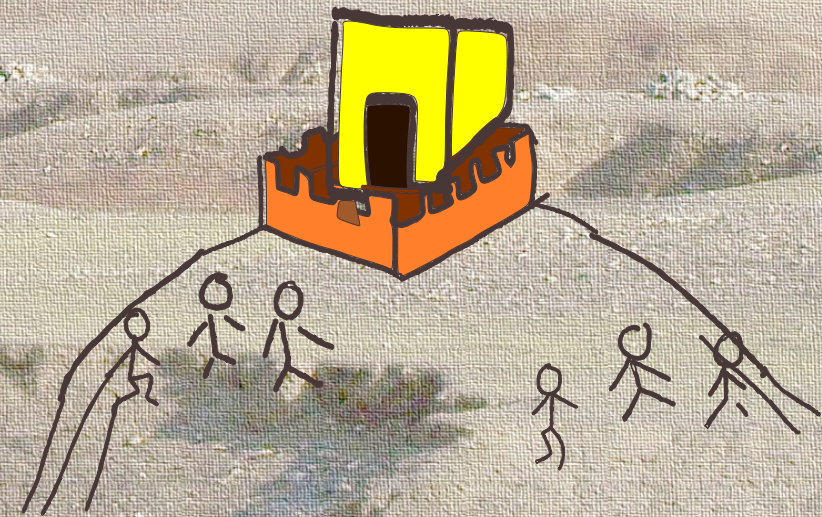
Ch 24: A vision of the whole thing - especially the end

2. "In that mountain"

- feast of food and wine
- destroy the covering over all nations

= death

+ wipe away all tears, and
reproach from his people



Ch 24: A vision of the whole thing - especially the end

3. We trusted, waited, let us rejoice, and be glad

For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain

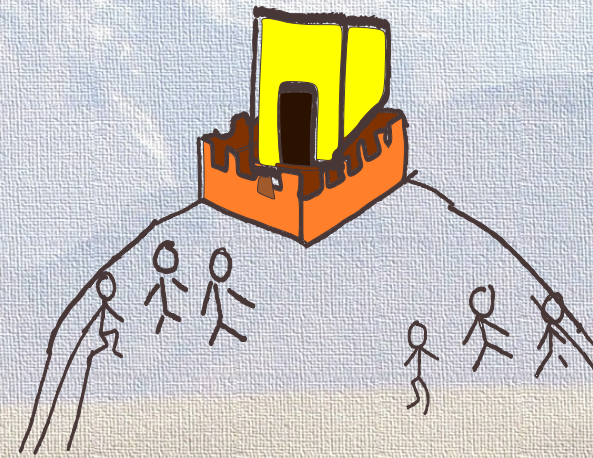
=> this is the place where they waited for the LORD, and put their trust in him

=> this is the place of blessing now

=> of the final banquet, and where death's covering is cast aside

=> *living, not by fortune cookies, but as citizens of Zion looking forward to its glory*

=> "... what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy lives as you look forward to the day of God, and speed its coming" 2 Peter 3:11



A vision of the whole thing - especially the end

BUT MOAB (ch 16)

= so near, so needy
16:3

But pride prevented
her from bowing the
knee to the one from
the house of David
(16:5)

- drowning in manure
- crashing down into
dust

=> the warning!

