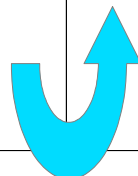


# Treasure Hunt

- What inconsistency marks those whom God judges (v. 17)
- What is wrong with worshipping in gardens (v. 17)?
- What two errors might “one in the midst” (v. 17) represent?
- What is the meaning of the “works” and “thoughts” that the Lord acknowledges in v. 18?
- What “sign” does the Lord give the people in v. 19?
- Who are “those that escape,” and from what do they escape?
- Who was the first person to fulfill v. 19?

# Integration of Isaiah 65-66

	<b>Isaiah 65</b>	<b>Isaiah 66</b>	
True Worship (from Gentiles)	1	1-2	18-22
False Worship from Israel	2-7	3-4	15-17
The Fate of the Wicked vs. God's Servants	8-16	5-6	14
Blessing on Jerusalem	17-25	7-13	



# Superficial Worship in 66:3, 17

v. 3 **He that killeth an ox** *is as if* **he slew a man;**  
**he that sacrificeth a lamb,** *as if* **he cut off a dog's**  
**neck;**  
**he that offereth an oblation,** *as if he offered* **swine's**  
**blood;**  
**he that burneth incense,** *as if* **he blessed an idol.**

v. 17 They that **sanctify themselves, and purify**  
**themselves**  
in the **gardens**  
**behind one tree in the midst,**  
**eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the**  
**mouse,**

# “the gardens” in 66:17

Isa 1:28 they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed. 29 For they shall be ashamed of the oaks which ye have desired, and ye shall be confounded for **the gardens** that ye have chosen.

Deu 16:21 Thou shalt not plant thee **a grove of any trees** [any tree as an Asherah] near unto the altar of the LORD thy God, which thou shalt make thee.

Isa 65:2 I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way *that was* not good, after their own thoughts; 3 A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; **that sacrificeth in gardens**, and burneth incense upon altars of brick;

# 66:17 “behind one *tree* in the midst”

“behind” has the sense of “after, following”

The Jewish scribes had two traditions:

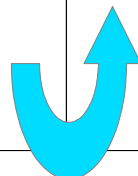
- Spoken (*qere*): “one” feminine → an Asherah tree
- Written (*ketiv*): “one” masculine → a human leader

Both are inappropriate!

Mat 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in [εἰς “unto”] my name, there am I in the midst of them.

# Integration of Isaiah 65-66

	<b>Isaiah 65</b>	<b>Isaiah 66</b>	
True Worship (from Gentiles)	1	1-2	18-22
False Worship from Israel	2-7	3-4	15-17
The Fate of the Wicked vs. God's Servants	8-16	5-6	14
Blessing on Jerusalem	17-25	7-13	



# “their works and their thoughts”

Isa 66:18 For I know their works and their thoughts

- What kinds of “works” and “thoughts”?
- 66:3 “their own ways”? 66:4 “their delusions”?
- But the following verses describe blessing, not judgment

How are these two words used together in the rest of the OT? Only two places:

Psa 92:5 O LORD, how great are thy **works!** and thy **thoughts** are very deep.

- The Lord’s works and thoughts, which the Psalmist adores

Pro 16:3 Commit thy **works** unto the LORD, and thy **thoughts** shall be established.

- The works and thoughts of one who trusts in the Lord

# 66:18-22, True Worship

<p><b>Gentiles</b> saved</p>	<p>18b it shall come, that I will gather <b>all nations and tongues</b>; and <b>they</b> shall <b>come</b>, and see <b>my glory</b>.</p>
<p><b>Jewish</b> mission: tell the Gentiles</p>	<p>19 And I will set a sign among <b>them</b>, and I will send <b>those that escape of them</b> unto the <b>nations</b>, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to <b>the isles afar off</b>, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen <b>my glory</b>; and they shall declare <b>my glory</b> among the <b>Gentiles</b>.</p>
<p><b>Gentile</b> mission: bring back the Jews</p>	<p>20 And <b>they</b> shall <b>bring</b> all <b>your brethren</b> for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD. 21 And I will also take of <b>them</b> for priests and for Levites, saith the LORD.</p>
<p><b>Jews</b> saved</p>	<p>22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall <b>your seed</b> and your name remain.</p>



# Signs in Isaiah

- The virgin birth to Ahaz (7:11, 14)
- The children of God given to Messiah (8:18)
- The promised Egyptian sanctuary in the coming kingdom (19:20)
- Isaiah's unusual attire (20:3)
- Promise of crops after Assyrian invasion (37:30)
- Reversal of the shadow on Hezekiah's sundial (38:7, 8)
- Replacement of thorns and briars with firs and myrtles in the kingdom (55:13)

# Our Lord's Sign to the Jews

Mat 12:38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a **sign** from thee. 39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a **sign**; and there shall no **sign** be given to it, but **the sign of the prophet Jonas**: 40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; **so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**

Mat 16:1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a **sign** from heaven. 2 He answered and said unto them, ... 4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a **sign**; and there shall no **sign** be given unto it, but **the sign of the prophet Jonas**. And he left them, and departed.

Joh 2:18 Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What **sign** shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? 19 Jesus answered and said unto them, **Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**

# Those that Escape

Luk 21:36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to **escape all these things** that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Act 2:40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, **Save yourselves** from this untoward generation.

# Where will the Survivors Go?



Rom 15:24 Whensoever I take my journey into **Spain**, I will come to you: ... 28 ... I will come by you into **Spain**.

— Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> journey  
— Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> journey