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⁶The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. ⁹They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His resting-place will be glorious.

Isaiah 11

Isaiah has explained the nature of the perfect king, His name unknown to Isaiah but known to us, Jesus, the one who came to earth 700 years after this prophecy. Isaiah now has revealed to him the purpose of the king's rule. It is so exciting to see what Jesus will achieve when He finally returns to start His reign. He will -

- **Reverse the effects of the fall (v6-9)** – These verses show how the effects of the disastrous choice of humankind to disobey God will be finally dealt with, we see that
 - Old hostilities and fears are reconciled and removed (v6) – Predators and prey live together in perfect harmony and humankind are represented by a little child. This child is safe amongst them but also humankind's leadership of creation is seen as gentle with an unthreatening face. Humankind's bad stewardship of the world God created is a distant memory, thank God!
 - All share the same nature (v7) – the togetherness of the last verse is taken further as they all eat the same food; in the reference to their young lying down together there is the idea that this transformation is permanent.
 - The curse is lifted (v8) – Genesis 3:15 says 'And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.' That curse is now removed totally shown by the infant (a child who is still breastfed) and young child (a toddler) who are clearly no longer in danger as they would be in similar circumstances in this world.
 - All who live know God and will live perfectly (v9) – They will do nothing bad, nor mar what is good. All will be perfect because it is God's holy mountain. The perfect king invites creation to enjoy this perfection. The key to this transformation is that the whole world in this new order knows the Lord and enjoys knowing Him.

Taken all together what an amazing picture of what God has planned for his children – what great news this is!

- **God's people will gather to Jesus (v10)** – 'In that day' reminds us that God has set a day when His people will gather to Him and one another to find rest. They can gather because Jesus is the banner to which they come and the one who has opened the way to our glorious (see above) and amazing home.

Question: How did Jesus show His perfection while on earth and why is this important?

Prayer

Lord, thank You for Jesus and that He will finally reverse the effects of the fall. Amen.