Program: SS Panel 2026 4 Q
Quarterly title: The Gift of Prophecy
Quarterly author: The Ellen G. White Estate
Lesson Title: #08 Interpreting Prophetic Writings
Day Title: Monday - The Historical-Cultural Context
For Lesson Dates: November 14-20, 2026
Record date: Monday August 25, 2026
Note: This **color** and **font** = quarterly text
Note: This color and font = John Dinzey notes

First and Last Name 2026 Q4 L# Title of your days lesson

John Dinzey.2026.Q4.L08. The Historical-Cultural Context

]]> Emphasize this
Question:
Answer
>[=] **Story:**
REF:>>
READ
NIL: Not in Lesson

Lesson 8 **November 14-20*

MONDAY *November 16*

The Historical-Cultural Context

Read Isaiah 65:17-20. What does it mean that in the new heavens and earth a child shall "die one hundred years old"? *(Isa. 65:20, NKJV).*

Isaiah 65:17 17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem *as* a rejoicing, And her people a joy.
19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, And joy in My people; The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, Nor the voice of crying.
20 "No more shall an infant from there *live but a few* days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; **For the child shall die one hundred years old,**
But the sinner *being* one hundred years old shall be accursed.

READ

Isaiah 65:20 is, obviously, symbolic language. What child is 100 years old? Instead, when reading Isaiah 65:17-20 in its historical setting, we can recognize that the verse was poetically pointing to **the blessing that the nation of Israel would receive, but only if they remained faithful to the covenant stipulations** *(compare with Deuteronomy 28).* As Jesus did in Matthew 24, linking more imminent events with later ones, Isaiah does the same here, showing that what would happen now would be a precursor to the new heavens and new earth.

"Blessed *shall* you *be* in the city, and blessed
Deuteronomy 28:1-7 1 "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.
2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God:
3 "Blessed *shall* you *be* in the city, and blessed *shall* you *be* in the country.
4 "Blessed *shall be* the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.
5 "Blessed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl.
6 "Blessed *shall* you *be* when you come in, and blessed *shall* you *be* when you go out.
7 "The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

if you do not obey
Deuteronomy 28:15-17 15 "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His

statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:
16 "Cursed *shall* you *be* in the city, and cursed *shall* you *be* in the country.
17 "Cursed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl.

READ

Taking Isaiah 65:20 out of its historical setting, one could easily assume the existence of death and sinners in the new heavens and the new earth. But that idea contradicts the promises in Isaiah that the righteous dead will be resurrected *(Isa. 26:19)* and that death and sorrow will finally cease to exist *(Isa. 25:8, Isa. 65:19).*

Your dead shall live
Isaiah 26:19 Your dead shall live; *Together with* my dead body they shall arise.
Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; For your dew *is like* the dew of herbs,
And the earth shall cast out the dead.

He will swallow up death forever
Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; The rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; For the Lord has spoken.

Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men
Revelation 21:1-4 1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.
2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God.
4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

In Isaiah the new creation is not totally in the future. It has entered suddenly into the present through God's glorious work of redemption and forgiveness. The verse announces that even now, in the present existence of Israel, God is already defeating

death. This idea is expressed through the promise of longevity and the elimination of infant mortality *(Isa. 65:20)*. All this only foreshadowed what will eventually come.

Read 1 Corinthians 16:20. How do we apply this text to our time and culture now?

Greet one another with a holy kiss.
1 Corinthians 16:20 All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

*****READ*****
In the Greek culture of New Testament times, a greeting among relatives and close friends was accompanied by a kiss. Paul gives instructions for this warm affectionate greeting among the Christian believers in Romans 16:16, 1 Corinthians 16:20, 2 Corinthians 13:12, and 1 Thessalonians 5:26. From the context, we can extract the biblical principle of greeting believers warmly and making them feel part of the family of God. In some cultures, kissing would be inappropriate, and a handshake, hug, or bow would be more culturally acceptable. Regardless of the cultural expression, however, Paul encourages us to make people feel accepted and loved in church gatherings.

**><><><