

The Oracle Against Babylon (21:1-10)

I. The Oracle Against Babylon (21:1-10)

A. The vision and its impact (1-5)

1. The oracle: massa (burden)
2. Concerning: “the wilderness of the sea” (Babylon)
3. The description: as repetitive windstorms from the south (Negev)
It (Babylon) comes from the wilderness, a land of dread (Deut. 8:15) -- a time of severe testing.
4. The nature of the vision: harsh, hard, burdensome

Verse 2 is the “words” of Babylon

5. “The treacherous (betrayers) and destroyer” is Assyria (33:1)
6. “Elam and Media” -- ready to take up arms against Assyria
7. “I have made an end” (I am determined) the boast of Merodach-Baladan
8. The impact of the vision on Isaiah
9. Actual physical pain and anguish
10. Actual emotional pain and anguish
11. Israel prepares for “holy war” -- casual, confident, “after dinner speeches”

B. The vision and its explanation (6-10)

1. The prophet is to take the position of a watchman at a post, and a herald who accurately reports what he sees.
2. The prophet is bold like a lion, and faithful and consistent
3. The prophet sees the futility in any Babylonian alliance in the fact that they are destroyed.
4. The prophet addresses the people