

Isa 1-5 Intro on the depraved & corrupt sin of Israel

Isa 6 God’s call & Commission of Isaiah

Isa 7-12 Test #1: Ahaz, Trust God! He says: “NO” (so God gives signs/hope in the coming Emmanuel: Jesus, ch7-12)

Isa 13-35 are ‘messages of judgments on foreign nations’ >> **“LESSONS IN TRUST”** - here’s why you should trust Yhwh =

3 MAIN LESSONS OF TRUST:

1. GOD WILL JUDGE THEM.— why trust the nations when they are under God’s judgment (Isa 13-23)?
2. GOD CONTROLS HISTORY.— Why trust the nations when all of history is in God’s good & mighty hands? (Isa 24-27)
3. FOOLS TELL YOU TO DISTRUST GOD.— Those who counsel you to trust flesh, blood, self instead of God are FOOLS (Isa 28-35)

The theme of the judgments on foreign nations (Isa 13-23): they are proud & God will punish them. Isaiah gives Israel the plan of God for the nations for 2 reasons:

- (1) Don’t fear foreign nations — God will judge them. [Fear God!]
- (2) God reigns over the nations — do Trust Him. [Trust God!]

Simple observations after a careful reading of the text of Isaiah 13:

- This is **Global**. - the earth, the world, all the inhabitants, etc.
- This is **Destructive**. - from the Lord: “day of the LORD”, vengeance
- This is **Literal**. - other texts use same language for eschatological doom (Matt 24)
- This is **Supported**. - Isa 13-14; Jer 50-51; Matt 24; Rev 17-18
- This is **Unfulfilled**. - it is straightforward, it will happen; it hasn’t happened yet.
- This is **Millennial**. - 14.1-4 - happens in kingdom-context (cf. Jer 50:4-5, 20).

I. CONSIDER! THE ARMY OF THE LORD IS FIERCE! (1-5)

II. CAUTION! THE DAY OF THE LORD IS NEAR! (6-16)

Ezek 30.3 // Joel 1.15; 2.1, 11, 31 // Amos 5:18, 20 // Obad 15 [for *all nations*] // Zeph. 1.7, 14

→The *Day of the Lord* is a period when God supernaturally intervenes in history in judgment primarily (with a time of restoration/hope at the end).

III. MARVEL! THE DOOM OF BABYLON IS ANNIHILATION! (17-22)

*Isaiah 13 — “God’s Final Judgment on Future Babylon”***A little biblical-theology study on Babylon in history/prophecy:**

- Babylon has always been an Anti-God city & system (Gen 11; 2 Chron 36; Rev 17-18). Jerusalem is the city of God; Babylon is the city of evil.
- Babylon is just South of modern Baghdad in Iraq. (Babylon, Shinar, Mesopotamia, Babel are all titles for this in the OT/NT).
 - Ps 137 - mourning in exile in Babylon: but judgment will come!
 - Isa 13-14 // Jer 50-51; Zech 5; Rev 17-18
 - Rev 17.1 - Babylon is a “Harlot/Prostitute”; Rev 17.5 - Babylon is a “Mystery” [now revealed]; Rev 17.18 - Babylon is a “City”
 - Revelation 17 - the *REASON* of Babylon’s doom (the cause // retribution)
 - Revelation 18 - the *REACTION* to Babylon’s doom (the effects // response)
- **BABYLON** — in the future, this city & system will have its tentacles/influence in every part of the world.
- They will all come together in one great ecumenical movement, a super-world religion, and the beast (=AntiChrist) will use this to extend his authority and power throughout all Europe, Africa, Asia and other continents.
- Yes Babylon will be a **city** — a rebuilt, flourishing, thriving, central city in the world.
- But it is also a **system** for evil, religious and political evil (cf. Rev 17-18).

What the Bible teaches about Babylon’s doom/destruction?

- The prophetic texts about Babylon reveal [Isa 13-14//Jer 50-51/Rev 17-18]: destroyed suddenly (Rev 18.8) // It will be complete & final & city won’t be found any more (Jer 51.63-64) // it will be thrown down violently (Rev 18.21) /// It will be destroyed with fire from heaven as God destroyed Sodom/Gomorrah (Rev 17.17, 16:17-21) // It’ll NOT be inhabited by people any more—ever (Isa 13) // Babylon will be destroyed by God just prior to the 2nd coming (Rev 19) // Universal Peace will follow Babylon’s final doom (Isa 14.1-3; Jer 50.4-5; Rev 20). Do you understand?

To Sum up the Prophecy reBabylon =

- **Rebuilt.** **BABYLON WILL BE REBUILT & THE CENTER CITY-HUB & POLITICAL HUB & COMMERCIAL HUB & RELIGIOUS SYSTEM-HUB FOR THE FUTURE TRIBULATION WORLD EMPIRE.**
- **Headquarters.** Again: to clarify: = Babylon is a literal re-built city that will dominate the world in the future Tribulation empire (the center for AntiChrist’s Trib worldwide empire)
- **Evil & Wicked.** It will be characterized as a harlot that prostitutes her moral values for material luxury (Rev 17)
- **Mystery** - unveiled in Revelation! The entire city is viewed as a mystery in that her future position, relationship to the AntiChrist, and ultimate destruction BY the antiChrist had not been known before John’s vision (it was new/unveiled)
- **Influential/Powerful.** Babylon will have influence/control over the world — over the entire globe.
- **City & System.** This is NOT a mystical system, not spiritualized as ungodliness. it is a literal city, combining with a literal system of godless evil. It is a real city and system that is intoxicated with power, luxury, immorality & evil.
- **God will annihilate it.** THE **BABYLON** in these chapters — though it is religious — it will exist geographically, politically, commercially, religiously and wickedly — and **GOD WILL UTTERLY ANNIHILATE IT.** (see Isa 13.19-20!)

Final lessons for all of us:

1. **God Rules History.** — molecule, monarch, mandate, military, and moment.
2. **Confess & Battle Pride.**— God abhors & wars with the proud (v.11; James 4.6)
3. **Let Prophecy Gladden You & Embolden You.** — God reveals His plans: understand it plainly; believe it confidently; rejoice in God continually; warn sinners urgently!
4. **None Will Escape God’s Judgment.** — No sin will ever go unpunished. God will judge sinners. Your hope to escape judgment is Christ (John 5.24; Rom 8.1)!
5. **Trust God Wholeheartedly.** — remember Isa 12:2!