

# The Prophets

## Falls International Baptist Institute

### Class Six: Isaiah – Part Two

Introduction: Our class notes for this lesson will rely heavily on “*Explore the Book*” by J. Sidlow Baxter. In this class, we will study the book of Isaiah and see the progression of orderly thoughts the LORD gave to us through His prophet. We will speak much of the Day of the LORD in our class tonight. The Day of the LORD is spoken of many times throughout God’s Word: The Bible speaks about it in Revelation 6-19; Ezekiel 30; Joel 1:15; 2:1; Zephaniah 1:7; Zechariah 14; Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21 and so many more places. **The Day of the LORD generally speaks of the seven-year tribulation during which the wrath of God will be poured out upon the Gentile World and it is the time of Jacob’s (Israel’s) Trouble.** It will culminate with a literal day when Jesus Christ literally comes back from Heaven on a white horse clothed with a vesture dipped in blood to judge the Gentile World at the Battle of Armageddon.

#### I. The Day of the LORD in Relation to Judah: Chapters 1-6

- A. God’s Indictment against Judah and Jerusalem in Chapter 1
  - 1. These chapters are like a courtroom scene: Verse 1 “*The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.*”
  - 2. Verse 8 “*And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.*”
  - 3. Verse 21 “*How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers.*”
  - 4. Notice His Promise of Future Restoration in Verse 26 “*And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city.*”
  - 5. Notice His Promise of Future Redemption in Verse 27 “*Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.*”
- B. God’s Indictment against Judah and Jerusalem in Chapters 2-6
  - 1. 2:11-12 “*The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.*  
*For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low.*”
  - 2. 2:17, 20 “*And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day... And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.*”

3. 3:17-18 *“Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts. In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires like the moon.”*
4. Read all of chapter 4
5. 5:6-7 *“And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briars and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.”*
6. Notice the “woes” given in these chapters:
  - a. 3:9 *“The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.”*
  - b. 3:11 *“Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.”*
  - c. 5:8 *“Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!”*
  - d. 5:11 *“Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!”*
  - e. 5:18 *“Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as it were with a cart rope.”*
  - f. 5:20 *“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”*
  - g. 5:21 *“Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!”*
  - h. 5:22 *“Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink.”*
  - i. 6:5 *“Then said I, **Woe is me! for I am undone**; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”*

It is hard to bypass the calling of Isaiah in Isaiah 6:1-8, but we must if we are to accomplish our objective in this class period.

## II. The Day of the LORD in Relation to Israel: Chapters 7-12

- A. Chapters 7-12 refer mainly to the northern ten tribes of **Israel, also called Ephraim**. Samaria was their capital.
- B. 7:1-2 *“And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, **king of Israel**, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but*

*could not prevail against it. And it was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with **Ephraim**. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind.”*

- C. 7:8-9 “For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people. And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.”
- D. 8:4 “For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, My father, and my mother, the riches of Damascus and the spoil of **Samaria** shall be taken away before the king of Assyria.” By the way, remember that all prophecy has a primary interpretation and then a prophetic implication and a practical application.
- E. 9:8-14, 21
- F. In chapters 10-12, the LORD addresses Assyria directly whom he is using to destroy the northern kingdom of Israel and to afflict the southern kingdom of Judah. God promises Assyria that destruction is coming upon her as well. After Assyria took the northern kingdom of Israel into captivity, and during the reign of Hezekiah, God Himself fulfilled that promise by killing 185,000 Assyrian soldiers in one night!
- G. A study of these chapters will also yield ten more references to the Day of the LORD.

### **III. The Day of the LORD in Relation to the Surrounding Gentile Nations: Chapters 13-23**

- A. The burden of Babylon: 13:1 – 14:27
- B. The burden of Philistia: 14:28 – 32
- C. The burden of Moab: 15 – 16
- D. The burden of Damascus: 17 – 18
- E. The burden of Egypt: 19 – 20
- F. The Burden of the Desert of Sea: 21:1-10 This is another prophecy against Babylon.
- G. The Burden of Dumah (Edom): 21:11-12
- H. The Burden of Arabia: 21:13-17
- I. The Burden of the Valley of Vision: 22 (This is the only burden in these chapters that is not directed specifically at a Gentile nation). The Valley of the Vision seems to be a reference to Jerusalem.
- J. The Burden of Tyre: 23
- K. There are at least 18 references to the Day of the LORD in these chapters. You can see that the LORD is giving His justification for indicting and judging the world through the Book of Isaiah. He starts with His people and moves out (almost in a circle) to the nations surrounding His people and eventually the whole world and till the end of history!

### **IV. The Day of the LORD in Relation to the Whole World: Chapters 24-27**

- A. 24:1 “Behold, the LORD maketh **the earth** empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.”
- B. 24:4-5 “**The earth** mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. **The earth** also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.”
- C. 24:16,19, 20-21
- D. 25:6-7 “And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto **all people** a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined. And **he will destroy** in this mountain the face of the covering cast over **all people**, and the vail that is spread over **all nations**.”
- E. 26:21 “For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to **punish the inhabitants of the earth** for their iniquity: **the earth** also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.”
- F. 27:1 “In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.”
- G. Once again, there are seven references the Day of the LORD in these chapters.

## V. The Day of LORD in Relation to Jerusalem: Chapters 28-33

- A. These six chapters consist of six woes that God intends to pour out upon Jerusalem. While first of these woes refer to Ephraim (Israel), God turns it on Judah in verse 7 with the phrase “they also”. The last one speaks of Assyria being the spoiler, nonetheless the context of these woes is the city, Jerusalem.
  1. Chapter 28: The Woe of Ephraim and Judah.
  2. Chapter 29:1-14 Ariel is a symbolic name for Jerusalem. This section focuses on her hypocrisy: vs. 13.
  3. Chapter 29:15-24 Woe is pronounced upon the evil schemers in Jerusalem
  4. Chapter 30 A Woe is pronounced upon the Rebels of Jerusalem
  5. Chapter 31 A Woe is pronounced upon those who would compromise and make an unholy alliance with Egypt instead of trusting in the LORD.
  6. Chapter 33 indirectly pronounces the woe of the Assyrian spoiler but then directly pronounces a woe upon the spoiler.
- B. Jerusalem was the most privileged city in the world and because of that bore the heaviest responsibility before God.
- C. The Day of the LORD is referred to in these chapters at least another four times. And the Day of the LORD will be the worst and best day of Jerusalem’s history ever.

## VI. The Day of the LORD in Relation to the Tribulation: Chapter 34

- A. Chapter 34 clearly speaks of the Tribulation Period which will come upon the entire earth. Notice verses 1-2 “Come near, ye nations, to hear; and

*hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it. For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter.”*

- B. God specifically targets **Idumea (which is another name of for Edom)**, Edom becomes a type of the world. This chapter fully expands the judgment of the Day of the LORD to every nation until the end of Gentile dominion.
- C. Notice verse 8 *“For it is the day of the LORD’S vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.”*

## **VII. The Restored Nation of Israel (Zion) during the Millennial Reign: Chapter 35**

- A. What a wonderful prophetic chapter and a promise of God to Zion as a whole. This is to Jerusalem, Judah, Samaria and Israel. This is to the nation of Israel as a whole. Their restoration is coming! Hallelujah!
- B. But this is more than a promise: this is a clear prophecy of the Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ on Earth. Though Jerusalem and Israel has been chastised greatly by their Loving Father, and though the “Time of Jacob’s Trouble” has not yet come, I promise you based upon this chapter alone that “the best is yet to come” for the nation of Israel.

## **VIII. A Transition in Message between the Two Parts of Isaiah: Chapters 36-39**

- A. These last four chapters in the first part of Isaiah’s prophecy are transitional chapters. Chapters 36-37 speak of the invasion of Judah by Assyria resulting in their destruction at the hand of God. At this point in history, Assyria lost their status as a world power and never regained it.
- B. Chapters 38-39 deal with Hezekiah’s sickness and miraculous recovery and his contact with the Babylonians. Tragically, while Hezekiah trusted God to destroy the Assyrians, he opened the door in pride and compromise to the nation of Babylon who would, in turn, bring Judah into captivity years later.
- C. In the second part of Isaiah from 40-66, Babylon is the reigning world power. So these four chapters give us the historical facts of the transition between the events and circumstances that Israel went through as Isaiah wrote the two parts of his book.

Next lesson, we will conclude the Book of Isaiah.

**For the final exam you will need to remember that the primary theme of the first part of Isaiah (Isaiah 1-39) is the Day of the LORD.**