

Let's Worship God

8th-13th January 2024

Isaiah



Isaiah

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Monday - Isaiah 14:4-20 - Death of the King

God is going kind of in a reverse order here in this chapter. He deals with far off enemies first, not far off in physical distance, but in time. For in the time that Isaiah lived, Babylon was not a threat, but somewhat of an ally of Judah. At the time that Isaiah was living, the danger was a different country, and that was Assyria. Before that the great enemy had been the Philistines.

First, we will look at the death of the king. We don't know if this is talking particularly about the last king of Babylon, Belshazzar, or if we are dealing with the whole institution of the royal family of Babylon. But it doesn't make much difference. In verses 4-6, we see the character of the king. He is not a protector, he is not a just man. No, he is a dictator. He is an oppressor. He is a tyrant.

In verses 7 and 8, the whole earth is at rest and quiet. The kings of Babylon were seeking to get everything. What would happen to the poor trees? They'd be cut down to be used, perhaps as weapons, or just to deny their use to the country that's being swallowed up. There's no more burning, and trampling, and so on from the Babylonian troops.

In verses 9-10, Hell is excited to meet Babylon. All the kings of the nations shall speak and say, Have you become like us? The dead are astonished. How is the king of Babylon here so soon? What a contrast! He who was so strong is in a moment completely powerless. He's become like one of them.

Verses 11- 20 deal with those standing around the king's corpse. He had looked quite impressive with his gold crown, with his gorgeous robes, and clothing, and all. But his impressive appearance has turned to maggots. The kings of Babylon did not consider themselves ordinary people, but gods. But their unbelievable pride is laid in the dust. Those standing around almost can't believe what they see. Instead of an honourable burial, he is treated like a bag of rotting rubbish.

Questions

1. What is the king like?
2. How has he been brought low?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that our nation would repent from its pride.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“The LORD has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people find refuge.”
Isaiah 14:32b

Praise: Psalm 107 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Tuesday - Isaiah 14:21-23 - Death of the Kingdom

In verses 21 to 23 we see the fall of Babylon itself. With her king and kingship gone, there is no leadership. There is no prince to take over to become the new king. You see, not only is the king destroyed, but all his children as well. The royal house is slain down to the last child. Because of that they can't build new fortresses, they can't build new strongholds. They can't build new cities. But that's not all. All the people are destroyed. There will be no more Babylon.

Who is able to stand up against Jehovah? Who is able to fight successfully against God's anointed king, the Lord Jesus Christ? There can never be any ultimate strength in godlessness. God may allow it to rise up for a time, but if so, it can be cut down all the more easily. The Lord Jesus always triumphs. There's wickedness all about. It's disturbing, but it shall not triumph. The same one who has triumphed over Babylon, the same one who has triumphed over Assyria, the same one who has triumphed over Philistia, triumphs over sin. It may be that you will be called upon to go through affliction. It may be that for a time the people of God must go through hard times, but God never lets them be brought to destruction.

Questions

1. How is Babylon destroyed?
2. How does Christ deal with His enemies?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God is in control of all things.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“The LORD has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people find refuge.”
Isaiah 14:32b

Praise: Psalm 108 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Wednesday - Isaiah 14:24-27 - Against Assyria

In Isaiah's lifetime, it was the Assyrians who came first upon Israel and destroyed it, and then Judah and nearly overwhelmed it. But Isaiah has been led by God to be talking about judgment coming on Babylon someday. What, some people might have been asking, does that have to do with us? Well, if you want something more at hand, let's talk about Assyrians. Because they are the imminent threat.

God's purpose with Assyria, and ultimately with all things, is planned. It's not that God has to come up with a plan B. No, God has a plan. God has a decree. He has made it all in eternity. Just because people can't see and understand every bit of it doesn't mean that there's no plan. There is nothing that happens that surprises God. There is nothing that ultimately changes His plans. When God has a plan, it will come to pass, as we see here in verse 24. It's invincible. Nobody can stop it. As we see here in verse 27, the Lord of hosts has purposed, and who will annul it? It is God who is in control. Just as no man can stop God, no culture, no nation can either.

The Assyrians seemed invincible, unbeatable, and they would invade. That was the decree from God, and that is exactly what happened. But He says here, when they do, they will be wiped out. That's exactly what happened. We don't know what happened, but nearly all the Assyrian army was dead in the morning. God's people would be redeemed, rescued, and saved, and all of this would be God's work.

God says here that the way he treats Assyria is the way he treats the other nations. All the world shall come to Christ as king. If they resist, they'll be smashed. But many will come to Him. This is really what Jesus is promising will happen when He gives to His disciples, and to us, the Great Commission. He promises to be with us, not standing around idle, not just rather watching while we fumble and bumble around. He is with us to bring about that which He has commanded us to do. God's people will be redeemed. This, although nations, though peoples, those strong ones in the earth who hate the Lord Jesus Christ, fume and fret. Yet all their efforts and all their strength shall avail them nothing. Wickedness shall not reign. King Jesus is ruling now. King Jesus shall rule. And King Jesus is bringing and shall bring all things under His feet.

Questions

1. What do we know about God's plans and purposes?
2. Why do we not need to be anxious and afraid of world events?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would not worry or be afraid, but trust God's purposes.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"The LORD has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people find refuge."
Isaiah 14:32b

Praise: Psalm 109 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Thursday - Isaiah 14:28-31 - Against Philistia

Philistia had been a nation that was a troubler of Israel a long time ago, but they were troublers of Israel again in Isaiah's time. We read in verse 28 that this prophecy came at the time of the death of King Ahaz. Ahaz had done every wrong move. Judah had gone off into wickedness more and more. God brought discipline so that no longer could she keep her borders. Soon she was being assailed on every side. Not only was Ahaz threatened first by Israel and Syria. Not only was he threatened by Assyria, but by those that everyone thought were finished as a nation, done as a power, done as a threat -- the Philistines. They'd been terrible enemies for the longest time, until God raised up a judge and two kings to deal with them. But Judah's foolishness, Judah's decline, led to Philistia's rejoicing (2 Chronicles 28:18).

However, what God is saying here is that Philistia's rejoicing would be cut off. They seemed to be back in ascendancy, but their end was near. God here gives word that he was sending a final destroyer. For from Ahaz came the godly Hezekiah. And then a dragon, which may well be looking to the Lord Jesus Christ. The destruction would be complete. It would go all the way to the root. There would be no survivors, no escape, no pity; there would only be death.

In contrast to this destruction about to be brought upon Philistia is the security of believers in this life, which we see in verse 30. There will be peace in the land of the godly, and, due to this peace, there will be general prosperity as well. People want to see general prosperity. They want to have security and safety, but they flee sadly from the only One Who is the source of these things. We must seek to be bringing the gospel to people. We must seek to be teaching those, who are already the people of God, the way of righteousness, the way of holiness. For our land will be transformed as the people of God are revived, and it is only then that we shall see new light breaking forth.

Questions

1. Why was Philistia a threat again?
2. What needs to happen in order for there to be peace and prosperity?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“The LORD has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people find refuge.”

Isaiah 14:32b

Praise: Psalm 110 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Friday - Isaiah 14:32 - A Refuge

The last thing we see here in this short prophecy against Philistia is the security of believers, not only in this life, but everlastingly. What are the messengers of the nations referenced in verse 32? Often in ancient times, when a nation made it through a crisis, others would come to see and congratulate. And what should the people of Zion, what should the people of Judah be saying to these? That Jehovah has founded Zion, and the poor of His people shall take refuge in it. It is the Lord who establishes His people in His wisdom, strength, holiness, righteousness, love, grace, His unchanging nature.

Who is Zion? Well, back then it was the physical city of David, the physical Jerusalem. But we see in Scripture that Zion is no longer a specific location. It is the people of God. We are the Jerusalem of God. We have the promise that He will never forsake us. There is always refuge in Him for the afflicted. Someone might say, how can we say that when we see the church so afflicted, or when we ourselves are afflicted by our own physical weakness, by our own spiritual weakness, by the unrighteousness around us, or persecution. How can we say that God is a refuge? Try Him and see. Look to his Word. Has not God always delivered His people? Has He not always preserved His remnant, even when the forces against them, humanly speaking, seemed absolutely unbeatable? God has always delivered. God has always destroyed the wicked. He has let them thrive for a time, but always He has brought His people through. This has been the case for the people of God as a whole. And this is true for each of you believers. Each one of you has seen this in your life and shall continue to see it. Can you not attest to different afflictions in your life? And can you not see how God has always brought you through? Every affliction that comes upon you is from the hand of your Father and especially fitted for your case, to make you more Christlike, to make you happier for eternity, and to fit you to be a proper servant; a happy, a joyful servant of his.

Questions

1. What should we be telling those around us?
2. What times in your life has God brought you through trouble?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that our Father in heaven loves us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“The LORD has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people find refuge.”
Isaiah 14:32b

Praise: Psalm 111 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Isaiah

Saturday - Isaiah 15 - Grief in Moab

Moab was to the east of Israel, on the other side of the Dead Sea. They were descended from the son of Lot, the nephew of Abraham. These people went off and they worshipped other gods. They wanted nothing to do with the living and true God.

We read here in verse 1 that Moab is laid waste and destroyed. Ar and Kir are a couple of their chief fortresses, the places where their people could go, it was thought, in safety. They had high, thick walls set up on hard to access places. They are weeping because these have fallen. They are dismayed not only over the fall of their fortresses, but they are dismayed over the fall and the powerlessness of their gods in whom they put their trust. They've torn their hair out in grief.

In verses 6-9, we see further disaster on them. The dismay and panic are everywhere. It comes from the invasion at which we'll look in chapter 16. But not only is this happening, there is drought coming upon them as well. All that they had gathered together was now gone. Any degree of wealth that they have is rifled and plundered, and the people themselves are slaughtered by the sword of the incoming invaders. If somehow they escape those enemy soldiers, they get caught by lions. Their time had come. Their time as a nation was over. The tale of their unbelief, the tale of their sinfulness, the tale of their wretchedness, was all finished up.

All things are in the hand of the King of kings and Lord of lords, the King of nations, the Head of His church, the Lord Jesus Christ. He is sovereign. He destroys the wicked, and He cares for and delivers his saints. No matter what the wicked do, no matter how powerful they appear, no matter how clever, no matter how they get ahead with lies and schemes, their destruction is coming. Take heart, believer, because Jesus is ruling all things for your good. And if you are not a believer, Jesus Christ has extended to you an amnesty, a full and complete amnesty, if you'll come to Him. If you will cry out to Jesus, run to Him and seek His forgiveness, you will be rescued, delivered, saved from your hatred, saved from your terror, and you will be made safe in the one who destroys His enemies and rescues His people.

Question

1. Why is Moab weeping?
2. What is offered to unbelievers?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"The LORD has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people find refuge."

Isaiah 14:32b

Praise: Psalm 112 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced
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