

Watch Israel and Judah – greatly blessed by God. Israel = Ephraim who received the promises given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and was promised to become a commonwealth of nations, Manasseh promised to become a great nation; and Judah promised the law giver Messiah.

The people were forewarned by Moses as they entered the land pledged to their fathers, they knew the blessings promised by God should they obey His voice, and curses should they choose to turn from Him. We know few of the house of Judah value the word God gave to the prophets. They prefer manmade traditions found in their Babylonian



Talmud. Isaiah speaks words of hope to those who prepared for another invasion due to their disloyalty.

Gladly in our time, many of the House of Judah are awake and embrace Messiah -- the Child who was born, yet it seems the faithless progeny of Ephraim and Manasseh didn't care. Instead of being honorable; they are infiltrated with roman leaders: and lovers of manmade traditions; ignoring God's word; reliant on the heartless; as they legislate every evil against orphans, widows and the poor -smashing and destroying:

#### For all this His anger is not turned away,

### but His hand is still outstretched.

<sup>1</sup> Woe, how terrible it will be for those who decree unjust orders, and write what is twisted which they prescribed; check out: The Other Israel

<sup>2</sup> to deprive the needy of justice, and rob the poor of their rights, that widows may be their spoil, and that they plunder the orphans! / Isaiah says, among their many livelihoods, the House of Judah would become child predators and rob widows.

Only 10% of Judah returned to rebuild Jerusalem and the temple. The majority of Judah found pagan Babylon their new home. Their venerated Babylonian Talmud still today, has many offensive details repugnant to Christian societies; you find strange practices such as: rabbis approving sex with children girls and boys alike; and also, with 3-year-olds. Reading the Talmud answers why orthodox Judah has such an affinity with roman Catholicism now days; and even shares a similar mindset of many muslims.

Jesus said, whoever offends one of the little ones who believe in Me, it is better for him that a millstone was hanged around his neck, and he be drowned in the depth of the sea - Matthew 18:6. No wonder the scribes and Pharisees of Judah enjoyed the comforts of Babylon for the next 1000 years.

But Isaiah isn't impressed, he asks:



- <sup>3</sup>And what will you do in the day of visitation; and in the destruction which will come from afar? to whom will you flee for help? and where will you leave your boasting? / what will you do when Messiah comes; Isaiah didn't know; but history tells us the people and the city hadn't prepared for Him, but rejected Him; these 3 questions for Judah still await answers. Having turned from the Lord God, we know, only a few will return in brokenness and humility to the Lord; which means in Jerusalem, its current citizens gather to deal with the great devastation that is coming. The night Jesus was betrayed, He said without Me, you can do nothing.
- <sup>4</sup>Without me they will crouch among the prisoners, and they will fall under the slain.

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the next several chapters - through 17, we learn about all the local neighbors... distant relatives since Abraham still living in the neighborhood... that the Lord will use to help remedy this sickness found in both feuding Israel and Judah.

<sup>5</sup>O Assyrian, the rod of My anger; and the staff in his hand is My outrage. 6I will send him against a deceitful nation and against the people of My wrath. I will give him a charge, to spoil and plunder the prev, and to trample them like mud in the streets / it is the LORD GOD who tells Ezekiel, I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they will possess their houses – Ezekiel 7:24; they will build houses, but not live in them, they will plant vineyards, but not drink its wine: nor will their silver or their gold deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath - Zephaniah 1:13, 18 / and is that old prophecy or current history, or both? Imagine it; against those who claim they are chosen.

<sup>7</sup>How is it he means not so, nor does his heart think so; it is in his heart to destroy and cut off not a few nations 8 For he says, Are not my princes altogether kings? / Moffatt says, but he has other plans and other aims; his thought is to exterminate far and wide; the Assyrian says, are not my captains as good as any of their kings? And did someone in heaven just answer: NO! God was sending the worst of the nations, to teach His people who they should trust, and who they shouldn't.

Nonetheless, we rudely interrupted the confused Assyrian who was reasoning in his peanut head:



- 9 Is not Calno as Carchemish? is not Hamath as Arpad? is not Samaria as Damascus? NO! And it's sort of funny, the overconfident Assyrian probably went on for another hour or two reasoning his good fortune; comparing his best against Judah's, never imagining that God was driving him... And it is as if the Lord God said to Isaiah: enough of that fool Assyrian
- <sup>10</sup> As My hand gripped these kingdoms of idols, whose graven images were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria / they were not to have any idols, or bow down to the work of their hands; but worship the Lord God who made them.
- <sup>11</sup> will I not do to Jerusalem and her idols, as I did to Samaria and her idols?
- <sup>12</sup> And it will happen, when the LORD finishes all his work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the arrogant king of Assyria, and his prideful outlook / when all the idolatry is rid of in that place? YES! The Lord will next deal with some premature, audacious speechmaker:
- <sup>13</sup> for he says, By the strength of my hand I did it, and by my wisdom for I am prudent and I have removed the boundaries of the people, and have plundered their treasures, and I brought down the residents like a valiant man / the guy thinks he's a genius; some of us have learned when good fortune comes our way, to thank the Lord, fully knowing we are smart enough to create incredible messes; but not smart enough to create our blessings; yet he continues, he thinks he knows what is going on; I bet this bushwhacked genius has an IQ of at least 40 – possibly 45: so about as high as the devil.
- <sup>14</sup> And my hand found as a nest the riches of the people, and as one gathers eggs that are left, I have gathered all the earth and no one moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped / the genius found the wealth of nations, and ransacked it: yet this crazed globalist might have missed Vanuatu and a couple other places, don't you think? If you've ever observed a mother bird protecting her nest; even the littlest birdbrains can make a commotion; but against this power-crazed fool, not a wing fluttered, not a chirp was heard – apparently the majority was silent. But Isaiah isn't silent. he didn't work his plans, he worked God's

Isaiah asks...

15 Will the axe boast itself over the one who chops with it? Will the saw exult itself over the one who saws with it? That would be like a club swinging the one who lifted it, or like a staff wielding the one who is not wood.



<sup>16</sup> So the Lord, the Lord of hosts will send a wasting disease among his stout warriors; and under his boast a fire will be kindled like a burning glow. <sup>17</sup> And the Light of Israel will be a fire, His Holy One a flame: and will burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day / the Savior, the Creator...says everything that pricked and pierced the goodness of the Lord will be suddenly burned up;

<sup>18</sup> And will consume the glory of his forest, and of his fruitful field, both soul and body / here we learn the Lord of glory describes taking down the Assyrian's sorry soldiers, to the last one standing:

- **✓** and they will be like when a weary flag-bearer collapses.
- 19 And the rest of the trees of his forest will be few, that a child may write them / God says, the number of tall Assyrian oaks left standing... even a kid in kindergarten will be able to count.
- 20 And it will happen in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and those of the House of Jacob who escaped, will no longer rely on the one who struck them; but will truly rely on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel / this title is used 30 times by the prophet.
- 21 A remnant will return to the mighty God, even the remnant of Jacob / history tells us that happened; Assyrian campaign in Samaria took away the House led by Ephraim that took them to another place where Ephraim would become a community of nations and Manasseh a great nation at the center of the earth in the last days; known as lost tribes though God said not lost to Him Amos 9; Hosea 1.
- <sup>22</sup> For though your people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet only a remnant of them will return: the destruction decreed will overflow with righteousness.
- <sup>23</sup> For a wasting disease the LORD God of hosts will make, even decree in the midst of all.
  - <sup>24</sup> So thus says the LORD GOD of hosts, O my people who dwell in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian: he will strike you with a rod, and will lift up his staff against you, like Egypt did.
- ✓ <sup>25</sup> For very soon, My wrath will cease, and My anger will be their destruction.
- 26 The LORD of hosts will stir up a scourge for him similar to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb: and as His rod was upon the sea, so He will lift it up like He did in Egypt / God wants His people to know when He raises His rod against the Assyrian, it will be as unexpected as when He parted the Red Sea; Pharaoh was sure he was victorious, not imagining he was to be destroyed.
- 27 And it will happen in that day, that his burden will be taken from your shoulder,
- and his yoke from your neck, and the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing.



God knew His people were overwhelmed with the advancing bad news, and gave them 10 promises. But for now, Isaiah says the Assyrian is on his way: And like brave investigative reporters who once used to inform the listeners, we see the steady advance of the Assyrians as they move toward the prize: Jerusalem.

<sup>28</sup> He is come to Aiath Least of Bethel, 12 miles north of Jerusalem, he is passed to Migron / 7 miles north; at Michmash he laid up his carriages / he's leaving his heavy supplies, so they move faster:

<sup>29</sup> They are gone over the passage: they take their lodging at Geba / 6 miles north to northeast; was the sun setting; Ramah is afraid those on the height are fearful; the hill has fled; Gibeah of Saul is fled.

<sup>30</sup> Lift up thy voice, O daughter of Gallim / morning had broken, 4 miles out, sound the warning: cause it to be heard to Laish, O poor Anathoth / 3 miles and closing fast.

<sup>31</sup> Madmenah is in flight / less than 2 miles; the inhabitants of Gebim gather themselves to flee.

32 As yet will he remain at Nob that day: he will shake his hand against the mount of the daughter Zion, the hill of Jerusalem / less than a mile... and can't you hear the 185,000 comedians among their ranks, whistling; slapping each other, laughing; mocking those in the distance, across the valley, who had gathered in fear and anxiety along the City wall?

Suddenly he stopped!! He is overlooking the City of David from atop Mount Olivet, but the Assyrian was not permitted to go further. The Lord wants to teach His people to trust Him.

33 Behold, the LORD, the LORD of hosts, will lop the bough with terrifying power: and the great in height will be chopped down, and the haughty will be humbled.

<sup>34</sup>He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an axe, and **Lebanon will fall by the Mighty One.** For all their taunting, they went no further, Sennacherib, in the height of his success, halted, and that night 185,000 Assyrians were destroyed.

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