

ISAIAH 10 vs 1

The people were forewarned by Moses as they entered the land pledged to their forefathers, 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 of God given by the prophets. They prefer the manmade traditions found in their Babylonian Talmud. In this chapter, Isaiah speaks words of hope to the people who were preparing for yet another invasion due to their faithlessness. Thankfully in our time, many of the House of Judah are waking to embrace the Messiah.



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Well we know the Child was born, yet it seems the faithless progeny of Ephraim and Manasseh didn't care, or didn't hear the good news. Instead of being honorable; they are led by greedy civil and religious leaders: godless lovers of manmade traditions; endlessly ignoring God's word; reliant on the heartless neighbors; legislating every imaginable evil against the fatherless and widows – promoting not only their bankrupt thievery, but also their freakish and oversexed perversions... so no wonder the previous chapter ended:

For all this His anger is not turned away,

but His hand is still outstretched.

Isaiah says...

¹Woe to them / how terrible it will be for them...

who decree unrighteous decrees,

and write trouble which they prescribed; check out: [The Other Israel](#)

² to turn aside the needy from judgment,

and to take away the rights from the poor of My people,

that widows may be their prey,

and that they may rob the fatherless! / Isaiah says, that among their many livelihoods, those in the House of Judah would become child predators and rob widows.

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Only 10% of the population of Judah returned to rebuild Jerusalem and the temple. The majority of Judah found pagan Babylon their new home. The venerated Babylonian Talmud of the Jewish people still today, has many offensive details repugnant to western Christian societies; you find many strange practices such as: rabbis approving not only having sex with children – girls and boys alike; but 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 them:

³ And what will you do in the day of visitation / what will you do when Messiah comes the first, very brief time; Isaiah didn't know; but history tells us Judah and Jerusalem hadn't prepared for Him, and didn't fare well, having rejected Him and condemned Him to death,

what will you do in the day of visitation; and in the desolation which will come from afar?

to whom will you flee for help?

and where will you leave your boasting? / three good questions for Judah that still await answers. Having turned from the Lord God, we know, only a remnant of Judah – only a very few will return again in brokenness and humility to the Lord; which means that in Jerusalem, the current citizens of Judah will continue to be situated to deal with the great destruction that will come on them – perhaps, sooner than we all can imagine. The night Jesus was betrayed, He said to His followers: *without Me, you can do nothing*.

⁴ Without me they will crouch among the prisoners, and they will fall under the slain.

For all this His anger is not turned away,

but His hand is still outstretched.

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

⁵ O Assyrian, the rod of My anger; and the staff in his hand... is My indignation.

⁶ I will send him against a hypocritical nation / the LORD tells prophet 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: neither their silver nor their gold will deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath* – **Zephaniah 1:13, 18,**

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and against the people of My wrath I will give **him** a charge, to spoil and plunder the prey, and to trample them like mud in the streets / can you imagine? These who claim they are chosen.

⁷ How is it **he** means not so, nor does **his** heart think so / Moffatt says, but **he** has other plans and other aims; his thought is to exterminate far and wide;

it is in **his** heart to destroy and cut off **not** a few nations.

⁸ For **he** says, Are **not my** princes altogether kings? / 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's as if the Lord God said... enough; and we shift from the Assyrian to learn what the Lord is thinking:

¹⁰ 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, that they would bow down and worship the works of their hands; instead they were called to worship, the Lord God who created them;

¹¹ will I not so do to Jerusalem and her idols, as I did to Samaria and her idols?

¹² And it will happen, when the LORD finishes all his work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem / and what is that work? Will He one day finally rid that place of all its idols? **YES!** For now, He says to Isaiah,

I will punish the fruit / the premature speech, the audacious vaunting...

of the arrogant **king of Assyria**, and **his** prideful outlook:

¹³ for **he** says,

By the strength of my hand I did it, and by my wisdom / the guy thinks he's a genius; some of us have learned when good fortune comes our way, to thank the Lord... fully knowing were smart enough to create incredible messes; but not smart enough to create our blessings. But the genius from Assyria continues;

for I am prudent / I understand; I know what's going on; I bet this bushwhacked genius has an IQ of at least 40 – possibly 45:

and I have removed the bounds of the people / I shifted the boundaries of the nations,

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and have robbed their treasures / I have plundered their sacred coffers,

and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man / I have reduced them to ashes:

14 And my hand found as a nest the riches of the people / I found the wealth of the nations, and ransacked it all: **and as one gathers eggs that are left, I have gathered all the earth** / yet I bet this power-crazed globalist might have missed Hawaii, Vanuatu and a couple other places, what do you think?;

and no one moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped / if you've ever observed a mother bird protecting her nest; even the littlest birdbrains can make a commotion, an uproar; but here against this power-crazed fool, not a wing fluttered, not a peep or chirp was heard – apparently the majority was silent. But Isaiah isn't silent, because though the Assyrian was free to carry out his outrageous plans, he unconsciously is working God's purposes...

so, Isaiah asks the people...

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.

16 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.

17 And the Light of Israel will be a fire, His Holy One a flame: / the Savior, the Creator...

and will burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day / everything that pricked and pierced the goodness of the Lord will be suddenly burned up;

18 And will consume the glory of his forest, and of his fruitful field, both soul and body / here we learn the Lord of glory is talking about taking out this Assyrian's sorry soldiers, to the last one standing:

and they will be as when a standard-bearer faints / more clearly,

✓ **they will be as a sick man wasting away.**

✓ **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,**

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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 used 30 times by the prophet.

✓ ²¹ **A remnant will return to the mighty God, even the remnant of **Jacob**** / and history clearly tells us this is what happened; in the Assyrian campaign in Samaria the northern House of Israel led by Ephraim, carrying with them the birthright promises of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the Lord promised them another place, a different place where Ephraim would become a community of nations and Manasseh would become a great nation... both in the center of the earth... when the time of the Gentiles comes to a close; few of Israel returned, that's why they became known as lost to history... though repeatedly God says, they are not lost to Him – **Amos 9; Hosea 1; 2 Samuel 7.**

²² **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.

✓ ²³ **For a wasting disease the LORD God of hosts will make, even decree in the midst of all.**

²⁴ **So thus says the LORD GOD of hosts, O my people who dwell in Zion / in the City of David, be not afraid of the **Assyrian**: he will strike you with a rod, and will lift up his staff against you, like Egypt did.**

✓ ²⁵ **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 wanted His people to know when He raises His rod against the Assyrian, it will be as unexpected and sudden as **when He parted the Red Sea**; when Pharaoh was sure he would be victorious, never imagining he would be utterly 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 promised His people, who undoubtedly were overwhelmed with the dreadful advancing news,

He gave at least 10 specific promises showing His care.

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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.

28 He is come to Aiath / east 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 heavier supplies, so they can move faster:

29 They are gone over the passage:

they have taken up 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.**

30 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.

31 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 of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem / less than a mile... and can't you hear the comedians among their ranks, whistling; slapping each other, laughing; mocking those in the distance, across the valley... who had gathered in fear and trepidation 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.

34 He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an axe,

and Lebanon will fall by the Mighty One.

For all their taunting, the foolish Assyrians progressed no further, and Sennacherib, in the height of his success, halted... and that night 185,000 Assyrians were destroyed.