

ISAIAH 28 vs 1

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Israel, Isra = ruled + El = God, Prophet

Isaiah says: there are two Houses of Israel

Ephraim Israel and **Judah Israel** – Both Houses were greatly blessed by God. **Ephraim Israel** the ½ Egyptian son of Joseph received all the promises given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and he was promised to be a commonwealth of nations; his older brother **Manasseh** was promised to be a great nation both -- at the center of the earth; **Judah Israel** was promised the great law giver Messiah.



In this chapter, we learn about regal **Ephraim**. Who was this guy? Well, his name means: **fruitful**. He was **not** Jewish, but he was ½ Egyptian...and is still the designated leader of the 10 northern tribes called: **House of Israel**. **Ephraim**, the younger of 2 brothers, **he carries the distinct honor of primogeniture**; he was sole recipient of the royal birthright blessings passed from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – who were not Jewish; though they were like the Arab nations, all of Shem, father of all the children of **Eber**.

Beginning in chapter 24, Isaiah addresses the major actors when the time of the Gentiles ends; when Messiah comes in power and great glory to set things right. With an awesome event, the world will know including **the 3 faithless shepherds** – Zechariah 11; when He is on the way the last time, He will fully clean heaven and earth of ALL their VIPs. All the cities of confusion around the world will be in shock. A new song is sung **in Judah**, **YESHUA is our wall** surrounding us; we have perfect peace leaning on Him. Seeing the NEWS, it is clear none have learned the song; and last of all, the thug of heaven is doomed.

So, let's see how successful this highly honored great-grandson of Abraham and his progeny were; okay?

Woe on Samaria,

¹ **Woe** / what? the word suggests: **how terrible it will be...** so we're not starting off well... **Samaria**, the crown of pride of the drunks of **Ephraim**, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, **Samaria**, which is on the head of the fat valley of those overcome with wine! Well, I guess on a scale of 1 to 10... 10 being best... we could rate Ephraim: **-1** we know Ephraim's crown should have been a **CROWN of Praise to their God**... but: pride comes before the fall; the doomed father of lies got to **them**. At best, drunks are obnoxious, irritating fools; now multiply it, cuz he's a royal; someplace in this world those of this royal drunk Ephraim: are wilting, ready to be carried out to the trash.

² **Look, the LORD has One who is strong and mighty as a hail storm or destroying tempest; like a flood of mighty waters overflowing,** / Samaria was left bare; this prophecy was fulfilled by Assyrians who carried away the House of **Israel**; but it reaches to when Messiah comes to deal with the whole world... when He who is mighty – comes a second time, **whose right it is to reign**, and takes care of business,

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with His hand He throws down Samaria to the earth / Ephraim and his descendants would be led to **another place**; and in that other place, would become as numerous as the sand of the sea, and the stars of heaven; no weapon formed against them would prosper; who was assigned by the LORD to declare His great Name from the rising to the setting of the sun; carrying the promises of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to the ends of the earth. Hopefully these royal idiots did not misuse their privilege to advance their greed. The LORD isn't finished with Ephraim. **some** of them are thieves; but a **few** are faithful.

Of this verse, Dr. Moffatt translated:

The Eternal has a resolute foe for them, that beats and batters men to earth, like a hurricane, like a storm of a surging flood. And they will be trampled down, Ephraim and his drunkards with their noisy crown.

³The crown of pride, of the drunks of Ephraim, Their capital City will be trampled / how far have they fallen? It is too difficult to tell; daily we see the evidence in the Brexit news. Will they resist, or will they also shout, we have no king but caesar:

⁴And the glorious beauty of this fading flower, on the head of the fat valley will be as the first-fruit before the summer when he / the Harvester looks at it, and eats it while yet in his hand / for a second time, Isaiah tells us about these specific prideful, obese lowlifes who, for some reason from someplace obtained a very inflated view of themselves; but it wasn't from God. What little good fruit found will be taken; in the previous chapter, we read the LORD is going to closely inspect the fruit: one by one the children of Israel will be gathered.

Now, in contrast to Ephraim... Isaiah declares...

⁵In that day the LORD of hosts will be a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty, to the remnant of His people / when He comes whose right it is to reign; His folks; the faithful few who remain. They won't be the church of Ephesus or Pergamos; Thyatira, Sardis, or Laodicea; who will be busy singing and giving lip service to the LORD. We're learning about the faithful few; Jesus spoke of the few who found the narrow way -- **Matthew 7**,

⁶And the LORD of hosts will be... a spirit of justice to him who awaits justice, and strength to them who fend off the battle at the gate.

Dr. Moffatt translated: The Lord will be inspiring the judge with justice, and brave champions with courage.



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⁷Yet here too, they also erred with wine, and staggered along the way from strong drink: **the priest** and **the prophet** erred in vision, they stumble in judgment they reel from the wine, they stagger from strong drink; they totter when giving their judgment / such a guilty scandal were among those conspiring in the darkness, who were supposed to be in the business of shining light; to be warning and teaching others eternal truths... the befuddled fools were negligent, stumbling, in a fog in broad daylight instead of diligently doing their assignment.



⁸For all their tables are full of filthy

vomit, there is **no** place left clean / their tables be they high or low, where all their food is served up and eaten; is also where it is crusted with puke, and unsavory smells. And with the squalor of society, Isaiah tells us these drunks start mocking God Himself. These offensive fools who sound more like juveniles... start babbling in their complaint against God:

⁹Who is He going to teach knowledge? Who will He get to understand the message? Those infants weaned from milk, just taken from the breast? ¹⁰For He stammers, law upon law, law upon law; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little / He's too hard to understand, He doesn't speak English. What's He talking about?

The LORD says, very well then...

¹¹For by those with stammering lips; He will speak Gaelic to this people ¹²to whom He already said This is rest; rest for the weary; and it is refreshing: yet they would **not** hear.

So the LORD adds, Enough!

¹³The word of the LORD to **them** / those babbling, mocking drunks... will be: law upon law, law upon law; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little, that they may trip and fall on their butts, and be broken, and captured, and taken away / notice, He takes their own mocking words to indict them; no sense in delaying the inevitable.

¹⁴So you **scoffers** who rule this people in Jerusalem, hear the word of the LORD. / even now a usurping Herodian jackass, not of David's house, claims to rule the city.

¹⁵ Because you **boast**, “**We have made a covenant with death, and an agreement with hell**; when a flooding scourge passes through, **it will not reach us**: for we have made **lies** our shelter, and under **deception** have hid ourselves” / so these rulers want to take as many as they can with them... not to live in the house of the Lord forever, but to be in the dark place made for the devil and his rebellious angels, so they definitely are immature, and drunk... and playing dangerous games!

¹⁶ So the Lord GOD says, Behold, I lay in Zion a stone, a tested stone, a precious **cornerstone**... for a sure foundation: whoever **believes** / in Hebrew, **aman**, to firmly trust what God said; clearly; whoever **stands firm**... will **not** be in a hurry.

¹⁷ I make justice the measuring line; the plumb line of the upright: but hail will sweep away your **shelter of lies**, and floods will overflow your **hiding place**.

¹⁸ Your covenant with **death** will be annulled, your agreement with **hell** will not stand; but when a flooding scourge passes through, you will be beaten down by it.

¹⁹ As often as it comes, it will take you further away: morning by morning, by day and by night it will sweep through: and to understand this message will bring sheer terror.

²⁰ For the bed is too short to stretch out: and the cover too narrow to wrap oneself.

²¹ The LORD will arise as on Mount Perazim, He will stir Himself as in the Valley of Gibeon; to do His work, His unusual work; and to do His task, His **extraordinary task** / starting SW of Jerusalem, just like when David was victorious over Goliath and the Philistines; followed by NW of Jerusalem like the day Joshua and his forces came to the rescue; and defeated 5 Amorite kings... in the place where the sun stood still; and we can be thankful, that is all we need to know about His work, His task, small or great – whatever He does to take care of business.

²² Now, stop scoffing, lest your handcuffs be made stronger: for I have heard from the Lord GOD of hosts of destruction determined on the **whole earth** / these chapters address the earth and its residents. Clearly, the LORD God who created both heaven and earth, unveils a Day on His calendar...when Messiah comes again to work.

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²³ **Give ear, hear My voice; listen, and hear My words** / someday I want to thank Isaiah for listening closely and passing along this fair warning; Moses told the people, man was not to live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord – **Deuteronomy 8**.

²⁴ **Does the farmer plow continually to sow? Does he only till the clods of the ground?** **No!**

²⁵ **When he levels its surface, does he not scatter dill, and scatter the cummin, and plant wheat; and sew barley and rye in their place?** **Yes!**

²⁶ **For he is rightly instructed, his God teaches him** / aren't you glad the Creator speaks clear and doesn't confuse His people – to rely on prayer beads or graven images that don't speak?

²⁷ **Dill is not threshed with a threshing instrument, nor is a cartwheel rolled over cummin; but dill is beaten out with a stick, and the cummin with a rod.**

²⁸ **Grain for bread is crushed, so he does not thresh it forever, because the wheels of his cart and horses will quickly ruin it.** / And the Lord isn't giving Isaiah a horticulture lesson to pass along; He is sharing the lesson He probably shared with Adam in the Garden; which is the lesson Jesus, the night He was betrayed, shared with His followers: **I am the true vine, my Father is the worker;** every branch that does not produce He takes away; every branch that produces fruit, He prunes that it produce more fruit – more love, more joy, more mercy and grace to share with one another; in the world you have tribulation, but be courageous, **I have overcome the world** – John 16.

²⁹ **This also proceeds from the LORD of hosts, who is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in wisdom.**

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