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The book of Isaiah has two great divisions; first: chapters 1-39; God's Criticism of both rebel houses Israel and Judah, thereby affecting all the local neighbors in the hood; and second: chapters 40-66; God's Consolation to both houses who have separate histories. The great Isaiah scroll found in the Qumran caves, dated from the 2nd century BC has put to rest many wild speculations about prophet Isaiah.



In the previous chapter: Jacob the cheat, and unholy Israel, luxuriated in their blessings, and answered God, offering Him their sins and crimes; like we see with those who must annually and weekly irritate the God of heaven with their manmade hocus pocus and traditions of men, fashioned after old Babylon. Like getting a costly present wrapped in a freshly used baby diaper. But the Lord has freely, generously, and clearly warned His people for more than 3500 years.

- ¹ Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen:
- ²Thus says the LORD who made you, and formed you from the womb, who will help you / I bet they were not chosen for the purpose of irritating Him: yet Jerusalem remains a tired trash heap of every graven image and faithless manmade tradition: someday it will be cleaned up;

Do not fear, O Jacob, My servant; and you, Jesurun whom I have chosen. / a diminutive term of endearment given Israel; at its root meaning; the upright one - Jacob, Jesurun and Israel = the same people; here we learn the Lord God works His will with whatever is available: a cheat, an upright one, and one ruled by God. He will even work His will with Balaam's ass,

- ³For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground: I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring / notice these words have a mundane meaning; or a spiritual application since God looks for those to make in His image and likeness. Jesus said. Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all the little things will follow; we know His word is powerful; we are washed by His word:
- ⁴And they will spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses / those who meditate on His law day and night, are like trees planted by streams of water -- Psalm 1.

For a will say, I am the LORD's; another will call himself by the name of Jacob; another will write on his hand "belonging to the Lord" and gladly call himself by the name of Israel.

Where is Israel?

/ or raise their hand in solemn oath -- they are the Lord's; or as the prophet says: mark on your hand -- Ezekiel 20... like we count on our hand... remind our hands they were created to work for the Lord; not to steal, not to create deception... our hands and our minds have the mark of God. And did you notice, not one said, I am an Orthodox Christian, or I am a Lutheran, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Pentecostal, Episcopalian or other; even I am a Christian, though I guess that's okay, too. But one thing we also note: none of these people said: we have NO king but Caesar.

⁶Thus says the LORD the King of Israel, his Redeemer the LORD of hosts;

I am the First, I am the Last;

and beside Me there is no God / so beside Him is no deceived pope, no goofy prelate, and no pretend father who is not a real father, nobody but His precious Son sits down next to Him. And don't you get the impression God is ready for any fool would want to stand up and object!!!

- ⁷Who is like Me? Let the fool proclaim and declare it, and recount it for Me in order, since I appointed the ancient nation. Let the fool declare the things that are coming, let him show what will happen.
- *Fear not, do not be alarmed: Didn't I tell you from long ago, and declare it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God beside Me? Indeed, there is no solid Rock; I do not know of any! / God, checked out all His creation and though He saw billions of hard heads, said there is nothing to fear.
- Those who make engraved image are all useless; their precious things will not profit; they are their own witnesses: they do not see or know; they are shameful / in Hebrew: bos, repeatedly Isaiah tells us, the Lord is not pleased with those who are hellbent on creating and offering fake images as possessing some power to serve; previously he wrote: they will be turned back and greatly shamed / they will be bos boshet... who trust in idols Isaiah 42.

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Dr. Dallas Willard, of USC, on the board of CS Lewis Foundation, says: Idolatry replaces God's words with our images. Some will say: A picture is worth a thousand words; that may be true when stuttering mankind talks; but not when it comes to the Lord who speaks clearly to His people. Try calling emergency 911 and then text or email them 1000 pictures of the medical emergency you are experiencing. We were created to respond to God's words: reading or hearing and learning from Him. God intends His words to be read and done.



¹⁰ Who has formed a god, or engraved image that is profitable for **nothing?** / this is nothing new; it has been going on since the serpent in the Garden cause Eve to question the Lord God who created them.

¹¹Look, all his friends will be bos boshet and the craftsmen are mere men. Let them all assemble together, let them stand up; let them fear, let them together be bos boshet. / the English: ashamed, but the Hebrew works:

¹² The blacksmith with the tongs both works over the coals, fashioning it with hammers, and works it with his strong arms. Yes, he gets hungry, his strength fails: he drinks no water, and after a while becomes weary. 13 A woodworker stretches out his ruler; he marks its outline. He planes it and outlines it with a compass, and makes it like the form of a man, like the beauty of a man; then it sits in the house. 14 He cuts down a cedar for himself, and takes a cypress and oak and it grows for himself. He plants a fir, and the rain makes it grow. / if you wonder what the Lord is talking about: He has no rivalry.

15 Then it becomes a thing for a man to burn: so he takes one of them, and warms himself; ves, he also kindles a fire and bakes bread. Yes, he makes a god and worships it; he makes a graven image and falls down before it.

¹⁶ Part of it he burns in the fire; this part he cooks a roast and eats meat, and is satisfied: yes, he also warms himself, and says, Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire: ¹⁷ but with the rest he makes it a god, his graven image. He falls down and worships it, and prays to it, and says, Deliver me, for you are my god / though it is merely the work of his hands. And fools who play games with God, -- God as he deals with them, will play their game and says.

¹⁸ They have not known nor understood: for He smeared over their eyes, so they cannot see; and their hearts, so they cannot understand.



¹⁹ And none considers in his heart, there is **no** knowledge or understanding to say, I burned part of it in the fire; yes, I baked bread on its coals; I roasted meat and ate: but will I make the rest into an abomination? will I bow down to the block of wood?

²⁰ He feeds on ashes: a deceived heart turned him aside and he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, Isn't there a lie in my right hand? / a deceived heart will be first to take him off the path; and he doesn't ask: is my skillful hand made by God to create abominations that offend Him?

²¹Remember these things, O Jacob and Israel; for you are My servant: I formed you; you are will not forget you. Where is srae!?

²²I have blotted out your stepping over the line like a thick cloud / scattered by the wind, and like a cloudy mist, covered your crimes.

Return to Me; for I have redeemed you.

²³Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it: shout for joy, you lower parts of the earth: break forth into singing, you mountains, O forest, and every tree in it for the LORD has redeemed Jacob, and glorified Himself in Israel. / God finds better use for all those elements wrongly used to fashion disgraceful, atrocious, artificial corrupting tokens and stuff:



Where is Israel?

watch the timeline: Ephraim's Israel is still moving to the new place.

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²⁴Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer; He who formed you from the womb, I am the LORD who makes all things; who alone stretches out the heavens, who spreads out the earth by Myself / how did Isaiah know the heavens were expanding, except that the Lord God told him; how could anyone know?



²⁵ who frustrates the signs of liars, and makes diviners crazy, turning wise men to

retreat, and making their knowledge foolish; / truly the Lord must be in His heaven laughing at much of what goes on... frustrating their plans - especially the most powerful plans; if they send violent people... then He sends a storm to rain on their parade; if they predict the future... then He causes the opposite to happen; which is good to know.



Just because a final govt will attempt to rule the whole world... does not mean God will let them; but if His sleepy people do nothing. He certainly has the prerogative not to interfere in order to wake them up;

And not forgetting the tiny house of Judah:

²⁶Confirming / stabilizing the word of His servant, and performing the counsel of His messengers; I say to Jerusalem, You will be inhabited and to the cities of Judah, You will be rebuilt I will raise up her ruins: / though they were taken captive, they would return; whether or not the neighbors, or EU, or UN – that organization that unites nothing but criminals to plunder the \$\$\$ given them or other roman projects like it; they all should have paid attention to the Lord.

²⁷ I say to the deep, Be dry; and I will dry up your rivers:

²⁸I say of Cyrus, My shepherd, he will perform all My desires: even saying of Jerusalem, she will be rebuilt; and the temple, its foundation will be rebuilt / we know 2000 years ago this occurred, so don't surrender to romans or Herodians

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