

# Isaiah

## Immanuel and Judgment on the Nations

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
March 07, 2020

### Today

#### Immanuel

734 BC – While Ahaz was king of Judah, Rezin, King of Aram {Syria} and Pekah, King of Israel invaded Judah. Ahaz and the people were terrified!

The Lord came to Isaiah and told him to take his son, ***Shear-Jashub***, and go to meet Ahaz with the following message: “***Don’t be afraid of these 2 burning sticks! Yes, they plan to take Jerusalem and set up another king in your place, HOWEVER, it will not happen!! Ask for a sign if you don’t believe me.***”

**Ahaz:** I will not ask for a sign!!

**Isaiah:** Why do you try the patience of God. God is going to give you a sign anyway..... ***The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. 15 He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject wrong and choose right. 16 But before the boy knows enough to reject wrong and choose right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. {Isaiah 7:14-16}*** But that's not all! You will experience great humiliation at the hands of both Egypt and Assyria as they fight for control of your territory. Your vineyards will become briar patches and your land full of thorns – a place oxen and sheep trample under foot.

Isaiah’s 2<sup>nd</sup> son was born and Isaiah was instructed to name him ***Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz*** - “Speed the Spoil and Hasten the Booty”. Before the child was able to call for his parents, the alliance between Syria and Israel was broken.

- 732 BC – Tiglath-pileser III {Assyria} conquered Damascus and Rezin was killed.

Now we come to the 1<sup>st</sup> of 17 passages that proclaim the “Good News” of Deliverance by God and a future Redeemer:

***Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7 - Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan - 2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned..... 6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.***

Isaiah’s primary message was to Judah, however, he occasionally brought indictments against the Israel as well.

- ***Isaiah 9:9-10*** - All the people will know it -- Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria -- who say with pride and arrogance of heart, <sup>10</sup> “The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with dressed stone; the fig trees have been felled, but we will replace them with cedars.”

The list of charges against Israel is long: pride, arrogance, lack of repentance, ungodliness, wickedness, false teachers who are teaching lies, unjust laws, oppressive decrees, trampling on the rights of the poor, refusal to grant justice, the abuse of widows and orphans.

The overarching theme here is God’s right to judge and Assyria will be His instrument of Judgment against Israel.

- 722 BC – Israel was destroyed by Assyria - The fact that God warned the People of Israel of this coming disaster speaks to His desire to save them from it. Their choice.....

Assyria will also be judged for her pride and inhumane treatment of other nations. Assyria’s appetite for destruction and brutality crossed the boundary God had set for them and far exceeded His plans and purposes.

- 612 BC – Assyria was destroyed by the combined forces of the Medes and Babylonians.

***Isaiah 11:1-10 - A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD-- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; 4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his***

*mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. <sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. <sup>9</sup> They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.*

## Judgment on the Nations

Isaiah begins with the destruction of Babylon. Babylon, as a dominating nation does not yet exist. This judgment is years in the future:

### Fall of the King of Babylon

- **Isaiah 13:19** - Babylon, the jewel of kingdoms, the glory of the Babylonians' pride, will be overthrown by God like Sodom and Gomorrah.

**Right in the middle of the judgment against the King of Babylon {Ch. 13-14} comes the Judgment against Lucifer {"shining one, son of the dawn" - the name "Lucifer" comes from the Latin Vulgate and means "light bearer"}, which reminds us of Ez. 28:12-19.**

- **Isaiah 14:12-16** - How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! <sup>13</sup> You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." <sup>15</sup> But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit. <sup>16</sup> Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: "Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble,

### Babylon Destroyed

- **Isaiah 14:22-23** - "I will rise up against them," declares the LORD Almighty. "I will cut off from Babylon her name and survivors, her offspring and descendants," declares the LORD. <sup>23</sup> "I will turn her into a place for owls and into swampland; I will sweep her with the broom of destruction," declares the LORD Almighty.

**Isaiah 14:24 - The LORD Almighty has sworn, "Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand.**

### Assyria Destroyed

- **Isaiah 14:25** - I will crush the Assyrian in my land; on my mountains I will trample him down. His yoke will be taken from my people, and his burden removed from their shoulders.

### Philistia Destroyed

- **Isaiah 14:31** - Wail, O gate! Howl, O city! Melt away, all you Philistines! A cloud of smoke comes from the north, and there is not a straggler in its ranks.

### Moab Destroyed

- **Isaiah 15:1** - Ar in Moab is ruined, destroyed in a night! Kir in Moab is ruined, destroyed in a night!
- **Isaiah 16:6-7** - We have heard of Moab's pride-- her overweening pride and conceit, her pride and her insolence-- but her boasts are empty. <sup>7</sup> Therefore the Moabites wail, they wail together for Moab. Lament and grieve for the men of Kir Hareseth.

### Syria Destroyed

- **Isaiah 17:1** - See, Damascus will no longer be a city but will become a heap of ruins.

### Ethiopia {Cush} and Egypt Destroyed

- **Isaiah 18:1-2** - Woe to the land of whirring wings along the rivers of Cush,<sup>2</sup> which sends envoys by sea in papyrus boats over the water. Go, swift messengers, to a people tall and smooth-skinned, to a people feared far and wide, an aggressive nation of strange speech, whose land is divided by rivers.
- **Isaiah 19:1** - See, the LORD rides on a swift cloud and is coming to Egypt. The idols of Egypt tremble before him, and the hearts of the Egyptians melt within them.
- **Isaiah 20:2-5** - .... the LORD spoke through Isaiah son of Amoz. He said to him, "Take off the sackcloth from your body and the sandals from your feet." And he did so, going around stripped and barefoot. <sup>3</sup> Then the LORD said, "Just as my servant Isaiah has gone stripped and barefoot for three years, as a sign and portent against Egypt and Cush,<sup>4</sup> so the king of Assyria will lead away stripped and barefoot the Egyptian captives and Cushite exiles, young and old, with buttocks bared -- to Egypt's shame. <sup>5</sup> **Those who trusted in Cush and boasted in Egypt will be afraid and put to shame.**

### The Fall of Babylon Described

- **Isaiah 21:5-9** - They set the tables, they spread the rugs, they eat, they drink! Get up, you officers, oil the shields! <sup>6</sup> This is what the Lord says to me: "Go, post a lookout and have him report what he sees. <sup>7</sup> When he sees chariots with teams of horses, riders on donkeys or riders on camels, let him be

alert, fully alert." <sup>8</sup> And the lookout shouted, "Day after day, my lord, I stand on the watchtower; every night I stay at my post. <sup>9</sup> Look, here comes a man in a chariot with a team of horses. And he gives back the answer: '**Babylon has fallen, has fallen! All the images of its gods lie shattered on the ground!**'" {see Revelation 14:8}

## Edom Destroyed {11:14; 21:11-12; 34:1-17; 63:1-6}

### Arabia Destroyed

- **Isaiah 21:16-17** - This is what the Lord says to me: "Within one year, as a servant bound by contract would count it, all the pomp of Kedar will come to an end. <sup>17</sup> The survivors of the bowmen, the warriors of Kedar, will be few." The LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken.

### Jerusalem Destroyed

- **Isaiah 22:7-13** - Your choicest valleys are full of chariots, and horsemen are posted at the city gates; <sup>8</sup> the defenses of Judah are stripped away. And you looked in that day to the weapons in the Palace of the Forest; <sup>9</sup> you saw that the City of David had many breaches in its defenses; you stored up water in the Lower Pool. <sup>10</sup> You counted the buildings in Jerusalem and tore down houses to strengthen the wall. <sup>11</sup> You built a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the Old Pool, but you did not look to the One who made it, or have regard for the One who planned it long ago. <sup>12</sup> The Lord, the LORD Almighty, called you on that day to weep and to wail, to tear out your hair and put on sackcloth. <sup>13</sup> But see, there is joy and revelry, slaughtering of cattle and killing of sheep, eating of meat and drinking of wine! "Let us eat and drink," you say, "for tomorrow we die!"

### Tyre Destroyed {Ch. 23}

#### The Whole Earth Destroyed – {24:1 - 27:13 is known as "Isaiah's Apocalypse" because of its global scope}

- **Isaiah 24:3-6** - The earth will be completely laid waste and totally plundered. The LORD has spoken this word. <sup>4</sup> The earth dries up and withers, the world languishes and withers, the exalted of the earth languish. <sup>5</sup> The earth is defiled by its people; they have disobeyed the laws, violated the statutes and broken the everlasting covenant. <sup>6</sup> Therefore a curse consumes the earth; its people must bear their guilt. Therefore, earth's inhabitants are burned up, and very few are left.

*Isaiah 25:1-9 - O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago. <sup>2</sup> You have made the city a heap of rubble, the fortified town a ruin, the foreigners' stronghold a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. <sup>3</sup> Therefore strong peoples will honor you; cities of ruthless nations will revere you. <sup>4</sup> You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall <sup>5</sup> and like the heat of the desert. You silence the uproar of foreigners; as heat is reduced by the shadow of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless is stilled. <sup>6</sup> On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine-- the best of meats and the finest of wines. <sup>7</sup> On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; <sup>8</sup> he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup> In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."*

## Take Aways

Isaiah has sometimes been called the "5<sup>th</sup> Gospel" because of the 17 passages that bring the good news of God's deliverance and a future Redeemer. Perhaps more than any other part of Isaiah, the passages that point to a future suffering servant king {9:1-7; 11:1-9; 42:1-9; 49:1-6; 50:4-6; 52:13-53:12}, have brought hope to Christians:

- **Isaiah 9:2, 6-7** - The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned..... <sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.
  - **Matthew 4:12-17** - When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he returned to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali-- <sup>14</sup> to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: <sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, along the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles-- <sup>16</sup> the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." <sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
  - **Luke 1:30-33** - But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."
- **Isaiah 11:1-10** - A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. <sup>2</sup> The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD-- <sup>3</sup> and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. <sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. <sup>9</sup>

They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

- **Matthew 1:1-6** - The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David.... and Jesse begot David the king.
- **Matthew 3:16-17** - As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
- **Romans 15:7-13** - Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* to the fathers, <sup>9</sup> and that the Gentiles might glorify God for *His* mercy, as it is written: "For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name." <sup>10</sup> And again he says: "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!" <sup>11</sup> And again: "Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!" <sup>12</sup> And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope." <sup>13</sup> Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Revelation 19:11** - Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.
- **Isaiah 25:4-9** - You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall <sup>5</sup> and like the heat of the desert. You silence the uproar of foreigners; as heat is reduced by the shadow of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless is stilled. <sup>6</sup> On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine-- the best of meats and the finest of wines. <sup>7</sup> On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; <sup>8</sup> **he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.** <sup>9</sup> **In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."**
- **1 Corinthians 15:51-54** - Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed -- <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."
- **Revelation 7:16-17** - They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; <sup>17</sup> "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
- **Revelation 21:3-4** - And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. <sup>4</sup> "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."