



SALVATION IS OF THE LORD

A Study of Isaiah - #10



JUDGMENT
AGAINST THE
HEATHEN

Isaiah 13-27

High-Level Outline

I. Sovereign Judgment of All (1-39)

A. Judgment on Judah (1-6)

B. Judgment on Judah and Her Invaders (7-12)

C. 10 Burdens against 12 Heathen Nations (13-27)

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|--------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Babylon | 4. Moab | 7. Ethiopia | 10. Arabia |
| 2. Assyria | 5. Syria | 8. Egypt | 11. Jerusalem |
| 3. Philistia | 6. Israel | 9. Edom | 12. Tyre |

Compare: **Jeremiah 46-51; Ezekiel 25-32; Amos 1-2**

D. Woes against Jerusalem (28-35)

E. Transition of Threatening Empires (36-39)

II. God's Salvation of Zion (40-66)

A. Superiority of Jehovah over Idols (40-48)

B. "Things That Make for Peace" (49-57)

C. Establishment of Zion (58-66)



JUDGMENT AGAINST
JERUSALEM

Isaiah 22:1-25

“God or Mammon?”

36) Based on Shebna’s condemnation, how might his sin connect him to the future fall of Jerusalem (**22:15-16**)? How severe was this seeming “minor distraction” considered by God (**22:17-19**)?

*Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts: “Go, proceed to this steward, To Shebna, who is over the house, and say: ‘What have you here, and whom have you here, That you have hewn a sepulcher here, As he who hews himself a sepulcher on high, Who carves a tomb for himself in a rock? Indeed, the LORD will throw you away violently, O mighty man, And will surely seize you. He will surely turn violently and toss you like a ball **Into a large country**; **There you shall die**, and there your glorious chariots **Shall be the shame of your master’s house**. So I will drive you **out of your office**, And **from your position** he will pull you down. (22:15-19)*

- Monument, chariots showed selfish pride (**1Sm.15:12; 2Sm.18:18**).
- Like those who feasted (“*tomorrow we will die*”), fixated on pagan.
- Why was he not focused on reversing the spiritual decay (**Mat. 6:24**)? Fulfillment? He could have been taken as Manasseh (**2 Chr. 33:11**).

“Father to Jerusalem”

37) What did Eliakim seem able to bear which Shebna had failed to appreciate (**22:20-24**)?

*“Then it shall be **in that day**, That I will **call My servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah**; I will clothe him **with your robe** And strengthen him **with your belt**; I will commit **your responsibility** into his hand. **He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem** And to the **house of Judah**. The **key of the house of David** I will lay on his shoulder; So he shall open, and no one shall shut; And he shall shut, and no one shall open. I will fasten him **as a peg in a secure place**, And he will become **a glorious throne to his father’s house**. They will **hang on him all the glory of his father’s house**, the offspring and the posterity, all vessels of small quantity, from the cups to all the pitchers.” (**22:20-24**)*

Responsibility of authority & opportunity (**Esther 4:14-16**).

- Use his position to help Jerusalem and Judah – not himself.
- His personal family would also benefit – for a while.



JUDGMENT AGAINST
TYRE

Isaiah 23:1-18

“Marketplace for Nations”

38) What was the great strength of Tyre and Sidon that was wasted (23:1-8)?

*The **burden** against **Tyre**. Wail, you **ships of Tarshish**! For it is laid waste, So that there is **no house, no harbor**; From the land of **Cyprus it is revealed** to them. Be still, you inhabitants of the coastland, You **merchants of Sidon**, ... on great waters **the grain of Shihor, The harvest of the River, is her revenue**; And she is a **marketplace for the nations**. Be ashamed, O Sidon; For the sea has spoken, The strength of the sea, saying, “I do not labor, nor bring forth children; Neither do I rear young men, Nor bring up virgins.” When the report reaches **Egypt, They also will be in agony** at the report of Tyre. ... Who has taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city, **Whose merchants are princes, Whose traders are the honorable of the earth?** (23:1-8)*

- Tyre (& Sidon) were seafaring merchants with harbors & markets.
- Their success & wealth had made them famous, respectable, powerful.
- Their destruction would hurt Egypt, who exported grain by them.

Shaking the Kingdoms

39) What general lesson against the heathen nations is highlighted specifically against Tyre (**23:8-12**)?

Who has taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city, Whose merchants are princes, Whose traders are the honorable of the earth? The LORD of hosts has purposed it, To bring to dishonor the pride of all glory, To bring into contempt all the honorable of the earth. Overflow through your land like the River, O daughter of Tarshish; There is no more strength. He stretched out His hand over the sea, He shook the kingdoms; The LORD has given a commandment against Canaan To destroy its strongholds. And He said, “You will rejoice no more, O you oppressed virgin daughter of Sidon. Arise, cross over to Cyprus; There also you will have no rest.” (23:8-12)

- Man's pride, glory and honor will always be humbled (**2:11; 5:15**).
- No city, nation, man can withstand God, regardless.
- Command? **Gn.10:15-20; Js.13:1-6; 19:24-31; Jdg. 1:30-32; 3:3**
- ***“Virgin daughter”*** implies the city had never previously fallen.

“People Which Was Not”

40) How are Babylon and the Chaldeans contrasted ironically as the destroyers of Tyre (**23:13-14**)?

Behold, the land of the Chaldeans, This people which was not; Assyria founded it for wild beasts of the desert. They set up its towers, They raised up its palaces, And brought it to ruin. Wail, you ships of Tarshish! For your strength is laid waste. (23:13-14)

- Tyre was an ancient, heavily fortified city (**Joshua 19:29**).
- Chaldeans were also ancient, but Assyria had controlled them for a long time (**Gen. 10:1-12; 11:28; 2 Kings 17:24, 30; 20:12-18**).
- Deepens the humiliation and highlights God’s involvement for something so small to grow so quickly and destroy such strength.
- Nebuchadnezzar would destroy mainland Tyre in 585-586 B.C.
- Alexander would destroy mainland and island stronghold in 323 BC.
- More complete foretelling of Tyre’s fall in **Ezekiel 26-29**.
- <http://www.pepperroadchurch.org/media/gospel-meetings/2017/06/10/a-flat-tyre>

Song of the Forgotten Harlot

- 41) How could Tyre's commerce and business be compared to "harlotry" and "fornication" (23:15-17)? Who would surprisingly benefit from her accumulation of wages this time (23:18)?

*Now it shall come to pass in that day that **Tyre will be forgotten seventy years, according to the days of one king. At the end of seventy years it will happen to Tyre as in the song of the harlot: "Take a harp, go about the city, You forgotten harlot; Make sweet melody, sing many songs, That you may be remembered."** And it shall be, at the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre. She will return to her hire, and commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world on the face of the earth. Her gain and her pay will be set apart for the LORD; it will not be treasured nor laid up, for her gain will be for those who dwell before the LORD, to eat sufficiently, and for fine clothing. (23:15-18)*

- If a city is represented as a "daughter", her lovers are her idols, gods! (e.g., **Isaiah 54:1-6; Jeremiah 3:20; 31:32; Ezekiel 16; Hosea 1-3**).
- Implies Tyre would spiritually compromise for trade deals (adopt idols?).
- However, her proceeds would benefit the Lord's people (**Ezra 3:6-7**).



JEHOVAH: KING, JUDGE
& SAVIOR OF THE EARTH

Isaiah 24:1-27:13

End of the World?

- 42) Chapters **24-27** are understood by many to refer to the events surrounding the end of the world, such as judgment day, eternal condemnation and a paradise in heaven. Although much of this context could apply to both a temporal or an eternal judgment, what clues can you find that tip the scales?
- Hyperbolic language seen previously applied specifically to judgment on individual nations *by nations* (**13:1-22**; **Jer. 25**).
 - For those destroyed or surviving, it is the end of their world!
 - Foreshadows the literal end of the world, providing language for it.
 - Immediate context is inconsistent with literal end of the world:
 - Scattered (**24:1**) – If earth dissolved, inhabitants scattered to where?
 - Plundered (**24:3**) – If earth dissolved, where is plunder taken?
 - Few Dwellers Left (**24:6**) – Who will live on earth after destroyed?
 - Survivors Sorrow (**24:7-11**) – Who will remain to be sorrowful?
 - Call for wine in the streets (**24:11**) ...
 - People left who will sing (**24:14-16**) ...

All Quarters of Society

43) Who all would be affected by the Lord's judgment (**24:1-4**)?

Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, Distorts its surface And scatters abroad its inhabitants. And it shall be: ¹As with the people, so with the priest; ²As with the servant, so with his master; ³As with the maid, so with her mistress; ⁴As with the buyer, so with the seller; ⁵As with the lender, so with the borrower; ⁶As with the creditor, so with the debtor. The land shall be **entirely emptied** and utterly plundered, For the LORD has spoken this word. The earth mourns and fades away, The world languishes and fades away; The haughty people of the earth languish. (24:1-4)

- Everyone! Six pairs of opposing extremes of society represent all man.
- No segment of mankind, society will be safe. Warning to all.
- God shows no partiality (**Acts 10:34-35; 1 Peter 1:17**).

Universal Misery

44) How many would be left, and what would be their state (**24:5-12**)?

*The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, ... Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, And those who dwell in it are **desolate**. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are **burned**, And **few** men are left. The **new wine fails**, the **vine languishes**, All the **merry-hearted sigh**. The **mirth** of the tambourine **ceases**, The noise of the **jubilant ends**, The **joy** of the harp **ceases**. They shall **not drink wine with a song**; Strong drink is bitter to those who drink it. **The city** of confusion is **broken down**; **Every house is shut up**, so that none may go in. There is a **cry for wine in the streets**, All **joy is darkened**, The **mirth** of the land **is gone**. In the city **desolation is left**, And the gate is stricken with destruction. (**24:5-12**)*

- Small remnant would survive (or not be carried into captivity).
- Those surviving would dwell in sorrow, misery, without joy.
- There is nothing to cause them to forget their sorrow or rejoice in song.

Universal Guilt

45) Why would such judgment fall (**24:5-6, 21**)?

The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, Because they have ¹transgressed the laws, ²Changed the ordinance, ³Broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, And those who dwell in it are desolate. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, And few men are left. ... It shall come to pass ¹in that day That the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth.

(24:5-6, 21)

- Desolation, destruction, humiliation is God's response to pervasive arrogant sin, to a "defiled land" (**26:21; Gen. 4:10-11; Lev. 18:24-30; Num. 35:31-34; Deu. 21:23; 24:4; 2 Ki. 9:26; Job 16:18; 31:38; Psa. 106:38-39; Jer. 2:7; 3:9; 16:18; Eze. 24:6-9; 36:18; Mat. 23:35; Rev. 6:9-11**).

Commandments, law before Old Law (**Rm. 1:18-19; Gen. 4:4; Heb. 11:4; 2 Pet. 2:5; Gen. 14:18; 26:5; Exo 2:16; 18:1-12; Jonah**).

Language is colored using the same strokes of the first sin (**Gen. 3**).

Praise in Grief?

46) Why would the expressions toward God manifest mixed emotions (24:13-16)? What would be the ultimate result (24:17-23)?

*When it shall be thus in the midst of the land among the people, It shall be like the shaking of an olive tree, Like the gleaning of grapes when the vintage is done. They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing; For the majesty of the LORD They shall cry aloud from the sea. Therefore glorify the LORD in the dawning light, The name of the LORD God of Israel in the coastlands of the sea. From the ends of the earth we have heard songs: “Glory to the righteous!” But I said, “I am ruined, ruined! Woe to me! The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously, Indeed, the **treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously.**” (24:13-16)*

- Those surviving will praise God for surviving, blessings (**Jer. 25:30**).
- Those observing afar will acknowledge God’s justice (**Hab. 2-3**).
- But, Isaiah still feels & sees that God’s people will be plundered.
- Implies that the treachery is not over.
- It will continue and so must judgment ...

Fall of the Whole Earth?

Fear and the pit and the snare Are upon you, O ***inhabitant of the earth***. And it shall be That he who ***flees*** from the noise of the ***fear*** Shall ***fall into the pit***, And he who comes up from the midst of the pit Shall be caught in the ***snare***; For the windows from on high are open, And the ***foundations of the earth are shaken***. The earth is ***violently broken***, The earth is ***split open***, The earth is ***shaken exceedingly***. The earth shall ***reel to and fro like a drunkard***, And shall ***totter like a hut***; Its ***transgression shall be heavy upon it***, And it will ***fall, and not rise again***. It shall come to pass ***in that day*** That the ***LORD will punish on high*** the host of exalted ones, And ***on the earth the kings of the earth***. They will be ***gathered together***, As prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison; ***After many days they will be punished***. Then the ***moon will be disgraced*** And the ***sun ashamed***; For the ***LORD of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem*** And before His ***elders, gloriously***. (24:17-23)

Messianic Judgment

- Progression implies no escape (**Amos 5:18-20**).
- Harkens to judgment like the flood (**Gen. 7:11; 8:2**).
- Earth will not arise from judgment, which will include “*kings on the earth*” and the “*exalted ... on high*”. ???

*“And in the days of these kings the **God of heaven** will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it **broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold** – the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.” (Daniel 2:44-45)*

Messianic kingdom judged all kings of earth! ... **Mic. 4:1-8**

Also judged demonic forces behind them (**Dan. 10:1-11:1; Rev. 13; Eph. 6:10-12; Exo. 12:12; 18:11; Deu. 32:17**).

Judgment delay by absorption in next empire (**Rev. 13:2**).



Praise amongst Woes

47) How would such widespread terrible destruction evoke a song of praise (**25:1-5**)?

O LORD, You are my God. I will exalt You, I will praise Your name, For You have done wonderful things; Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth. For You have made a city a ruin, A fortified city a ruin, A palace of foreigners to be a city no more; It will never be rebuilt. Therefore the strong people will glorify You; The city of the terrible nations will fear You. For You have been a strength to the poor, A strength to the needy in his distress, A refuge from the storm, A shade from the heat; For the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall. You will reduce the noise of aliens, As heat in a dry place; As heat in the shadow of a cloud, The song of the terrible ones will be diminished. (25:1-5)

His character is manifest: words of faithfulness, truth from old

- His power over unbelieving oppressors is evident.
- His redemption, refuge for His people is experienced.