

# Isaiah 9-12 Notes

## Precept study on Isaiah Part 1, Lesson 5

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### 1 Review: Isaiah 1-9:7

- **Isaiah 1-2**

- God calls the people's sin to account: people corrupt
- Result of sin: exile, destruction.
- God calls the people to repent.
- Result of repentance: made white, washed.

- **Isaiah 3-5**

- Is 3: leadership removed, people's rebellion
- Is 4: Branch of the LORD: purified the remnant
- Is 5: Song of the Vineyard, judgement on Israel, woes.

**Key passage:** 3:10-11: Say to the righteous that it will go well with them, For they will eat the fruit of their actions. Woe to the wicked! It will go badly with him, For what he deserves will be done to him.

- **Isaiah 6**

- before the Throne, Isaiah's call
- but the people will not listen

Gospel outline:

- We are confronted with God's holiness
- We see our own unholiness, and confess our sins
- God provides a sacrifice for sin, which we accept
- God then asks, who will go?
- We are sent, but few will listen

- **Isaiah 7-9**

- Is 7: Trust God or Man? Ahaz given the sign of Immanuel born of a virgin. Key verse 9: If you will not believe, you surely shall not last.
- Is 8: Fear God or Man? Do not fear what they fear. People reject the gentle waters of Zion, and will receive a destructive flood from the Euphrates instead.
- Is 9:1-7: Light or Darkness? A great light will shine in Galilee, on those in darkness. Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace, on the throne of David forevermore.

## 2 Isaiah 9:8-10:34

- What is the repeated statement that connects these passages?

Four sections, each ending with

In spite of all this, His anger does not turn away and His hand is still stretched out.

Compare with Is 5:25:

On this account the anger of the LORD has burned against His people, And He has stretched out His hand against them and struck them down And the mountains quaked, and their corpses lay like refuse in the middle of the streets For all this His anger is not spent, But His hand is still stretched out. (Is 5:25)

- Ask the class to summarize each section.
  - 9:8-12: anger at Ephraim's pride, even after suffering judgement. Thus the LORD sends adversaries (Aram, Philistia)
  - 9:13-17: anger at their failure to repent, and for leading the people astray. Thus the LORD has no pity, cuts off head (leaders) and tail (false prophets).
  - 9:18-21: anger at their wickedness and self-destruction. Thus the LORD allows their own sin to consume them.
  - 10:1-4: anger at injustice. Thus the LORD sends devastation and captivity.
- Consider how these statements of God's anger relate to Is 1-9:7 (next sections below).

### 2.1 Isaiah 9:8-12 : Anger at pride; Thus adversaries sent

- See Isaiah 2:9-22, where the pride of Israel is judged and abased.

The pride of man will be humbled And the loftiness of men will be abased; And the LORD alone will be exalted in that day, But the idols will completely vanish. (Is 2:17-18)

- Thus the LORD sends adversaries (Aram, Philistia). See also Is 8:7.

Now therefore, behold, the Lord is about to bring on them the strong and abundant waters of the Euphrates, Even the king of Assyria and all his glory; And it will rise up over all its channels and go over all its banks. (Is 8:7)

- Discuss. Do we see these sins today in our culture? In us? What do we do about it?

## **2.2 Isaiah 9:13-17: Anger at unrepentance; Thus leaders removed / no pity**

- Ephraim's refusal to repent. See Is 6:9-10, about Judah:

Go and tell this people: 'Keep on listening, but do not perceive; Keep on looking, but do not understand.' "Render the hearts of this people insensitive, Their ears dull, And their eyes dim, Otherwise they might see with their eyes, Hear with their ears, Understand with their hearts, And return and be healed." (Is 6:9-110)

- Leading the people astray: see Is 3:12

O My people! Their oppressors are children, And women rule over them O My people! Those who guide you lead you astray And confuse the direction of your paths. (Is 3:12)

- Thus the LORD has no pity, cuts off head (leaders) and tail (false prophets) of Israel. See Is 3:1-3 about Judah:

For behold, the Lord GOD of hosts is going to remove from Jerusalem and Judah Both supply and support, the whole supply of bread And the whole supply of water; The mighty man and the warrior, The judge and the prophet, The diviner and the elder, The captain of fifty and the honorable man, The counselor and the expert artisan, And the skillful enchanter. (Is 3:1-3)

- Discuss. Do we see these sins today in our culture? In us? What do we do about it?

## **2.3 Isaiah 9:18-21: Anger at wickedness and self-destruction; Thus self-destruction allowed**

- wickedness and self-destruction. Thus the LORD allows Israel's own sin to consume them See also Is 1:31, 5:24, 3:14-15 about Israel/Judah:

The strong man will become tinder, His work also a spark. Thus they shall both burn together And there will be none to quench them. (Is 1:31)

Therefore, as a tongue of fire consumes stubble And dry grass collapses into the flame, So their root will become like rot and their blossom blow away as dust; For they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. (Is 5:24)

It is you who have devoured the vineyard; The plunder of the poor is in your houses. What do you mean by crushing My people And grinding the face of the poor? (Is 3:14-15)

- Discuss. Do we see these sins today in our culture? In us? What do we do about it?

## 2.4 Isaiah 10:1-4: Anger at injustice: Thus the LORD sends them into captivity

- Widows and orphans, compare with Is 1:23

Your rulers are rebels And companions of thieves; Everyone loves a bribe And chases after rewards They do not defend the orphan, Nor does the widow's plea come before them. (Is 1:23)

- Reliance on wealth, compared with Is 2:7-8

Their land has also been filled with silver and gold And there is no end to their treasures; Their land has also been filled with horses And there is no end to their chariots. Their land has also been filled with idols; They worship the work of their hands, That which their fingers have made. (Is 2:7-8)

In that day men will cast away to the moles and the bats Their idols of silver and their idols of gold, (Is 2:20)

- Discuss. Do we see these sins today in our culture? In us? What do we do about it?

## 2.5 Isaiah 10:5-34: Anger at Assyria's arrogance; Thus the LORD destroys them

- How is Assyria described in 5-11 and 13-14? What is the LORD's intent and what does Assyria do instead?

– Tool used by the LORD to punish Israel/Judah, but exalts itself over the LORD.

- And thus what will happen to Assyria (10:12)?

– Assyria's arrogance will be punished.

- How do Assyria and Israel/Judah compare? See Is 2:11-17,22

The proud look of man will be abased And the loftiness of man will be humbled, And the LORD alone will be exalted in that day. For the LORD of hosts will have a day of reckoning Against everyone who is proud and lofty And against everyone who is lifted up, That he may be abased. ... Stop regarding man, whose breath of life is in his nostrils; For why should he be esteemed? (Is 2:11-12,22)

- How do Assyria and Israel/Judah differ? See Is 10:7 and contrast with Is 10:25.

– Assyria intends to destroy Israel/Judah, but that is not the LORD's intent. Is 10:7  
 – But the LORD *will* destroy Assyria, Is 10:25.

- Assyria will halt just north of Jerusalem. (Is 10:28-32), and will shake his fist at Zion. See 2 Kings 18:22, 19:35-37

"But if you say to me, 'We trust in the LORD our God,' is it not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem'? (2 Kings 18:22)

Then it happened that night that the angel of the LORD went out and struck 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men rose early in the morning, behold, all of them were dead. (2 Kings 19:35)

- Discuss. Do we see these sins today in our culture? In us? What do we do about it?

## 2.6 Key application questions for Isaiah 9:8-10:34

- How do we respond to His correction?
- Do we allow God to take the lead in vengeance against sin of others?

## 3 Isaiah 11

### 3.1 Isaiah 11:1-10: The shoot/branch from Jesse

- Discuss the characteristics of the shoot/branch from Jesse as described in v1-10.
  - from Jesse's root (King David's father)
  - the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him
  - has wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, fear of the LORD
  - He'll judge in righteousness
  - He'll strike the earth with the rod of His mouth / slay the wicked
  - girded with righteousness / faithfulness
  - resting place glorious
- Compare with Rev 19:11-16

And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." (Rev 19:11-16)

- Jesus called Faithful and True when He returns
- judges/wages war in righteousness
- sharp sword from his mouth / rod of iron
- girded with the name: King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and Word of God

- Has this occurred? If not, when?

### 3.2 Isaiah 11:11-16: The remnant returns

- Discuss what the Lord will do in v11-16.
  - recovers the remnant (2nd time) from the four corners of the earth
  - no more conflict between Ephraim and Judah
  - will plunder Philistia, Edom, Moab, Ammon
  - Sea of Egypt destroyed
  - River (Euphrates?) dried up
  - remnant return on dry land
- Compare with Matthew 24:30-31

And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory. "And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other. (Matt 24:30-31)

- will recover His elect from the four winds
- tribes on earth will mourn

### 3.3 Key application question for Isaiah 11

- Do I order my life with a view toward this Day?

## 4 Isaiah 12: A psalm of praise: His anger is turned away

- Consider 12:1a: Then you will say on that day, ... What is Then referring to?
  - the day of the LORD, discussed in Isaiah 11, when the Branch shall reign,
- Consider this repeated phrase:

In spite of all this, His anger does not turn away and His hand is still stretched out. (Is 9:12b, 9:17b, 9:21b, 10:4b)

- Contrast with Isaiah 12:1

I will give thanks to You, O LORD; For although You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, And You comfort me. (Is 12:1)

- What will happen on that day?
  - give thanks
  - You comfort me
  - I will trust, not fear
  - LORD is my strength, song, salvation
  - draw water from the springs of salvation; contrast with Isaiah 8:6.
  - make his deeds known

- Compare with Zephaniah 3:8-13

"Therefore wait for Me," declares the LORD,  
"For the day when I rise up as a witness  
Indeed, My decision is to gather nations,  
To assemble kingdoms,  
To pour out on them My indignation,  
All My burning anger;  
For all the earth will be devoured  
By the fire of My zeal.  
For then I will give to the peoples purified lips, (compare with Isaiah 6)  
That all of them may call on the name of the LORD,  
To serve Him shoulder to shoulder.  
From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia  
My worshipers, My dispersed ones,  
Will bring My offerings.  
In that day you will feel no shame  
Because of all your deeds  
By which you have rebelled against Me;  
For then I will remove from your midst  
Your proud, exulting ones,  
And you will never again be haughty  
On My holy mountain.  
But I will leave among you  
A humble and lowly people,  
And they will take refuge in the name of the LORD.  
The remnant of Israel will do no wrong  
And tell no lies,  
Nor will a deceitful tongue  
Be found in their mouths;  
For they will feed and lie down  
With no one to make them tremble." (Zeph 3:8-13)

- **Key application questions for Isaiah 12:** Who do we fear? Who do we trust?