

## "Isaiah Bible Study, Lesson 5, Isaiah 10, 11 and 12"

- ✍ We finished chapter 9 last time and included the first four verse of chapter 10 because the chapter breaks can be arbitrary at times.
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### 1. Isaiah 10

- ✓ Assyria endured as an empire for 700 years, Isaiah 10:5. They were God's instrument to judge the northern kingdom of Israel, but they were evil themselves and eventually were judged by God as well. Just because God used them for His purposes didn't absolve them of being responsible for their own actions, "capture booty and to seize the prey" is what the Assyrians did, but it was also one the names of Isaiah's two sons, an odd job to be a prophet, even your kids were involved in it, Isaiah 10:6. Bragging over what they did led them to think that they could do anything, but God is saying "no way," Isaiah 10:7-11. If there is one sin that highlighted throughout Isaiah, it is the sin of pride and arrogance; God hates it Isaiah 10:12. It is the failure to acknowledge God and His sovereignty over our lives that led to all other sin. Acknowledge God is not a "nod to God" but a recognition of His complete ownership and control over life Romans 1:21. It's God's way, will, power, knowledge, wisdom that gets us through and nothing that is from us, Proverbs 3:5-6. The Assyrians assumed and took credit for all their successes, but all the power, wealth and wisdom was God's not theirs. One idiom for sin is leaven, it puffs up. Boy, he's full of himself! God will always judge that Isaiah 10:13-14. Assyria was defeated at Jerusalem, do you remember how?, in One day!, Isaiah 10:15-17. Consequences, not much left, Isaiah 10:18-19.
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- ✓ Only about 50K return from Babylonian captivity out of millions that had been in Israel before the destructions of Assyria and Babylon, Isaiah 10:20-22. These great kingdoms no longer exist, but Israel does!, Isaiah 10:23-24. Speaking of the victory of Gideon in the Valley of Jezreel, Isaiah 10:25-26. "Fatness" can also be translated "anointed one" because oil is a fat from olives and that was what they poured over the heads of their kings calling them "the Anointed One" or Messiah in Hebrew, Isaiah 10:27. This is a direct reference to king Hezekiah reign as well as his victory over the Assyrians. Isaiah is predicting every move of the Assyrian king and his army in advance! It's like war bulletins but they are years ahead of the actual events, Isaiah 10:28-32. Isaiah talks as if he's a TV announcer narrating in real time. These places and progression escapes us if we don't know the map of Israel: Aiath is 30 miles north of Jerusalem and so is Migron; Michmash is 7 miles north; Geba, Ramah, Gibeah are about 6 to 6.5 miles northwest of Jerusalem; Anathoth is about 3 miles north; Nob is just on the north rim overlooking Jerusalem and connected to the Mount of Olives, he could look right down into Jerusalem itself from there and curse them. God knows everything. God is ahead of all evil, all problems, all deviant behavior, God is allowing it, but He is ahead of it. This is how He works all things together for good, Adam and Eve sinned in time, but Jesus was planned before that, Revelation 13:8 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 1:9. Adam and Eve had a position from which they could fall, but we have a position from which we cannot fall because it is based on the finished works of Jesus. People and especially leaders are referred to as strong trees or mountains in the scripture idiomatically—we need to be sensitive to that language in Isaiah, Isaiah 10:33-34.
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## 2. Isaiah 11

- ✓ Isaiah has the heavy-duty passages like the one we just finished and then sprinkles in these that taste sweet because they predict the Messiah, Isaiah 11:1. Having spoken of the world leaders as trees, now he speaks of Jesus in similar terms: as a twig, branch, stem, looking back to Isaiah 6:13. Always humble and lowly, not like the world leaders as they posture to gain men's approval, only to be brought low: Daniel 4:1-18 (the occasion of Nebuchadnezzar's repentance and salvation). Jesse was the father of David the king! As we saw earlier, branch is the Hebrew word Netzer which is used in a Hebrew pun to refer to the Messiah as a Netzerene or Nazarene (anglicized). Jesus is at the same time the branch of Jesse and a Nazarene, it's a play on words. One of Jesus' titles is the "root of David": Matthew 2:23, Romans 15:12, Revelation 22:16, and Revelation 5:1-7 (always humble and reserved). A many faceted Spirit, Isaiah 11:2-7a, Revelation 1:4-5, Revelation 5:6, Zechariah 3:8-10, Zechariah 4:6 and Zechariah 10. We are used to the Trinity being referred to throughout the Old and New Testaments, but 7 Spirits? This is an Old Testament idiom for the Holy Spirit, 7 referring to complete or wholeness which equals complete or wholly God. The number 7 refers to completeness not necessarily perfection or holiness because we have the dragon of Revelation 12 with 7 heads, completely evil not holy. Interesting that there is one Spirit and then three pairs of descriptive, similarly in the tabernacle and temple there was the Menorah which is one lamp with three additional pairs or one lamp with 6 branches. Jesus claimed to be that light. Jesus said, "I am the vine, and you are the branches" Jesus is the 7 fold Spirit; what is the number of man?, it is the number 6, so, One Vine and its human branches, fascinating!
- ✓ "the spirit of counsel and strength," the Temple had two pillars in the front of it that had no purpose other than décor (they supported nothing), but the Bible goes on and on about their dimensions and their architecture, one was named Boaz (strength) and the other Jaochin (counsel). God created with "Words", and He will end it all with "Words", Isaiah 11:3-4, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:8, and Revelation 19:11-21. He judges with righteousness and fairness, which is not possible for any human judge because we cannot know what it takes to fully judge in righteousness and fairness, it takes full knowledge both of the events and the intents of the heart, only God sees and knows those things. But there are yet great days to come!, Isaiah 11:6-10. Why do these animals do these things today? It is because of the curse, so, we are seeing the curse lifted to some extent during Jesus' earthly reign. All creation was cursed because of sin and suffers greatly under its corruption, Romans 8:19-21. "The second time?", when was the first time? Babylon, the second time is what is currently happening in our world, Isaiah 11:11.

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**Israel began to return in the 1910's, formed a state in May of 1948 (the most significant historical event since Israel's exile in A.D. 66); since that time the Jews have been returning to the land and will gather there only to be isolated and set apart for the attack of the Antichrist who will take over their country but will be annihilated with the return of the ultimate Jewish king, Jesus. We are currently watching this second time taking place before us! Israel is not being regathered because they deserve it but because God promised and He keeps His promises, Isaiah 11:12-16 and Ezekiel 36:17-24. Listen to the song of the redeemed of Israel long before they are redeemed Isaiah 12:1-6.**

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