

Isaiah 30

- ✓ Just because we are Christians doesn't mean our plans are HIS plans, **Isaiah 30:1-5**. **Proverbs 3:5-6** doesn't mean a simple nod-to-God but a full submission to His ownership of our lives and resources. We have certain fears and pressures on us. To whom or to what are we turning to, to protect ourselves? Egypt is like the world that we can flee to for help or advice or direction. Are we looking to the Lord or the world to solve our problems? It's a difficult thing for us be balanced between trusting the Lord and making our own plans. It's a difficult thing for us to trust God for provision and yet work and save for our futures. It's a difficult thing for us to trust God for protection and yet arm ourselves and lock our doors. We make plans but trust the Lord; we work hard but we trust the Lord; we lock our doors and buy a gun, but we trust the Lord.

- ✓ "Tell us what makes us feel good" like the feel-good preachers; **2nd Timothy 4:1-4**. Myths make us happy and feel better even though things aren't better, false teachings drug our souls so that we don't feel God's conviction from the Holy Spirit, **Isaiah 30:6-10**.

- ✓ He's alluding to something visually that we have probably never seen; a bulge caused by the enemy trying to break into our city wall, **Isaiah 30:11-14**. It's far easier to do something than to wait, often we get busy doing something that God has not sanctioned and we should have waited on His clear leading for **Isaiah 30:15**. Wow, so God can make things not work out if we don't rely on Him?, **Isaiah 30:16**. The same job that would have provided for us with God's blessing won't now; the same insurance that would have covered won't now; the same locked door that would have kept out the intruder won't now—all because of where our confidence lies. In most cases, God does not wave a magic wand over our problems, He usually gives us something to do: Elisha told Naaman to go wash 7 times; Jesus sent the leprous men to see the priest; Peter had to go in and pray over the woman who died (Dorcas); David had to find his own stones and sling one at Goliath, etc. The Lord is waiting on us to learn to wait on Him **Isaiah 30:17-18**. How often has God longed to bless us but we jumped the gun and settled for something second rate when He had His best instore for us if we had waited on Him. This is what you want, God directing your steps, but you will have to wait on Him to speak and lead and not move before that, **Isaiah 30:19-21**. You will have to pay the price of waiting on Him, **Psalms 27:14**. What would have changed had Abraham and Sarah waited? What would have happened if you had waited on a spouse or a job or some other life choice?, **Isaiah 40:31**. Very seldom does a person get to see what they would have gotten had they waited: **2nd Samuel 13:1-14**.
- ✓ Some things will be different in the millennium including the sun and the moon, apparently, **Isaiah 30:23-26**. Always interesting that when God judges He often uses hailstones as the means of judgment, **Isaiah 30:27-30** with **Revelation 16:21**. Topheth is the lowest part of the Hinnom valley, a place where Molech was located, where they burned their children; it later became the city dump where they burned trash. These fires never went out there; this gave rise to an idiom that Jesus uses, but was also used widely by others, referring to Hell being similar to this place "Gehenna", **Isaiah 30:31-33**.

Isaiah 31

- ✓ Moving toward chapter 35 marks a distinct change in the writings and mood of this book. The historical context is that Judah is trying to cut a deal with Egypt for protection from Assyria. "I'm safe because I've got money", "got brains", "got options" or are you safe because you trust in God?
 - ✓ – Looking to Egypt for help? The error of Self-reliance and self-sufficiency, **Isaiah 31:1**. When we hear the word reconciliation we hear that we will be made right with God by what Christ has done for us. But reconciling things includes not just declaring things that are right to be right but also declaring things wrong to be wrong. God will reconcile the books, if you will, and those who are paid in full will be shown as such and those who owe will be shown as such, **Isaiah 31:2**.
 - ✓ After relying on Egypt and failing, **Isaiah 31:3-9**, there was no remedy for Hezekiah, no logical or visible answer, he just trusted the Lord that He had a way when there was no way, **2nd Kings 19:14-34**. Hezekiah deserves our respect because he fully trusted God to come through, and, oh boy, did He! 185K were killed!, **2nd Kings 19:35**, but this wasn't the entire army. Hezekiah had no idea how God was going to fix their situation; there was no visible sign of support at all, the day before. Things turned on a dime when the time was right.
 - ✓ Elisha was calm while his servant was in panic mode; he couldn't see any alternative, **2nd Kings 6:15-17**. There is a lot that is going on behind the scenes that you and I are not privy to, God is working constantly and powerfully.
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Isaiah 32

- ✓ Yet future; certainly not the present!, "Look, a righteous king is coming! And honest princes will rule under him. Isaiah 32:1", **Isaiah 32:1**. That will be an awesome day, **Isaiah 32:2-5**. Dire predictions of some bad times only to end when the Spirit is poured on Israel, **Isaiah 32:6-15**. "Did God's people stumble and fall beyond recovery? Of course not! They were disobedient, so God made salvation available to the Gentiles. But he wanted his own people to become jealous and claim it for themselves.", **Romans 11:11-12**.

"Justice will rule in the wilderness and righteousness in the fertile field. And this righteousness will bring peace. Yes, it will bring quietness and confidence forever. My people will live in safety, quietly at home. They will be at rest. Even if the forest should be destroyed and the city torn down, the LORD will greatly bless his people. Wherever they plant seed, bountiful crops will spring up. Their cattle and donkeys will graze freely.", Isaiah 32:16-20.
