

Isaiah

The Lord Is Salvation

More Doom

On

Assyria,

Philistia,

Moab,

Damascus,

Cush,

And Egypt

Isaiah 14:24-20:6

Lesson Twenty-Three

Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum

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More Doom On Assyria, Philistia, Moab, Damascus, Cush, And Egypt

Today we will cover a lot of territory. That is a very true statement because we will talk about God's judgment on Assyria, Philistia, Moab, Damascus, Cush (Ethiopia), and Egypt. This is a lot of territory, but as we will see, God has His reason for judging each nation, and He tells us what will happen to each nation.

We should probably admit here that the language in these chapters makes it difficult to fully understand all that is said. Most of those who study Isaiah's words admit that sometimes the words in these chapters can be confusing. However, some of it is pretty obvious, and today we are going to summarize, or mention a specific thought, about that which we can be pretty sure.

First we encounter Assyria. We have already heard much about this nation and their war machine. As we have said previously, the defeat of the Assyrians occurred about 701BC.

Through Isaiah, God says that He has a plan to destroy the Assyrians and no one can prevent Him from doing what He has planned. Read Isaiah 14:26, 27.

Next on the list is Philistia. It seems that the ruler of Ashdod led a revolt in Philistia. He wanted the King of Judah, Hezekiah, to join him. Isaiah was very opposed to this. Hezekiah was instructed to tell the messengers from the ruler of Ashdod that God had established Zion, and it was a place of refuge for people who were suffering. Read Isaiah 14:29 and 32.

The third nation God sends warning to is Moab. History tells us that Moab was a nation built from the family of Noah. It was located east of Judah, beyond the Dead Sea. They were friendly with Israel much of the time. However, they did become enemies of Judah and were to be judged. Read Isaiah 15:3; 16:4, 5, 13.

Many cities of Moab are named in chapter 15. A few of them can be identified and exist today. However, many of them cannot be found. We hear the prophet mourning over the defeat of the people and their cities. The writing says that God, and Isaiah, knew all the cities and wept over them all. God found no joy in what had to be done in judgment. Read Isaiah 16:10

Chapter seventeen begins with doom for Damascus and Ephraim. Isaiah is talking about the nations of Syria and Israel (Northern kingdom) here. These two nations were military allies. Damascus, or Syria, will be ruined, its cities deserted. Ephraim's, or Israel's, destruction would be like suffering a long illness, like a field where all the grain has been cut down and like a tree when all the olives have been taken off except a few on the top branches.

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Read Isaiah 17:1, 5, 6. Then read Isaiah 17:7, 8. These two last verses seem to be placed here to offer hope, and maybe to tell what will happen because of God's judgment. People will turn to God and worship Him instead of altars made of good smelling things or the god Asherah, also called Asheroth and Asherim. This false goddess was mentioned at least forty times in the Old Testament.

In the rest of this chapter, God speaks of the uselessness of worshipping false gods and assures the people that God will take care of nations that do it. Read Isaiah 17:13.

The next in the list of nations is Cush, also called Ethiopia. Representatives were sent from Ethiopia to Jerusalem to make an alliance against the Assyrians. Ethiopia was just south of Egypt. We have here some of the best words to describe God and the fact that He is far greater than we. God is a power that we can feel, but not see...heat in sunshine. He is like very tall clouds of summer that seem to reach to the top of the sky...dew in the heat. Read Isaiah 18:4, 7. Ethiopia would bring gifts to God.

Chapter nineteen records words of doom for Egypt. In verses 1-4, God brings about civil war. Egyptians fighting Egyptians. Verses 5-10 describes a disaster that is almost unimaginable. Everything which provides food, work and water will be gone. Verses 11-15 tells of the failure of the wise men of Egypt, saying that they will give senseless, or stupid, advice. Read Isaiah 19:13. Note: Zoan (Tanis) and Memphis (Noph) were great cities of Egypt.

In Isaiah 19:16-25 there are five oracles introduced with "In that day..." One, there will come a time when Egypt will fear Judah. Two, there will be five Egyptian cities worshipping Jehovah God. Three, this worship will include Egyptians. Four, a highway is built through Judah from Egypt to Assyria, and Judah will be God's witness to both. Five, Israel, Assyria and Egypt will come together and through them the world will be blessed. Read Isaiah 19: 16, 18, 19, 21, 23.

Chapter 20 is a strange story of Isaiah being told to spend three years as the naked prophet of God. This obviously got people's attention for the prophet's message. Read Isaiah 20:1, 2.

For people today, we must see that God has a plan and He will carry it out, as He did then.

*Underlined words and phrases are to be used in completing the Student Worksheet.

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Scripture Memory: "For the Lord Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart Him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?" Isaiah 14:27

Lesson Goal: To point out the fact that God has a plan and will carry it out.

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Student Worksheet

More Doom On Assyria, Philistia, Moab, Damascus, Cush, And Egypt

Isaiah 14:24-20:6

As the teacher goes through the lesson, listen for answers to these:

1. What are the five nations mentioned in our lesson today?
2. From whose family did Moab descend?
3. What three things would Israel's destruction be like? (Chapter Seventeen, 5, 6.)
4. What are the five oracles in Isaiah 19:16-25 ?

Scripture Memory: "For the Lord Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart Him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?" Isaiah 14:27

How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that the God of the Bible is the true God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus' name. Jesus' death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.