

**Isaiah**

**The Lord Is Salvation**

**Doom  
On  
Jerusalem  
And Shebna**

**Isaiah 22**

**Lesson Twenty-Five**

*Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum*

# Isaiah

**The Lord Is Salvation**

## **Doom On Jerusalem And Shebna**

Isaiah has another message for Jerusalem. We should not see each message as applying to a different situation. Much of what Isaiah warned against was happening in a short period, or as we have noticed, was a long way into the future. In that case, Isaiah was given warnings from God about what would happen many years from the time he lived. Read Isaiah 22:1-14

We hear God warn Jerusalem against getting too comfortable in a time of peace. It could be that the people of Judah were rejoicing and feeling relieved right after King Sennacherib had found most of his army dead and headed back home in 701 BC.

They were excited. Everyone went up to their housetop to shout and celebrate. Remember that in those days the houses had flat roofs where the people could relax, like a patio in our day. Read Isaiah 22:1-4

While the people were celebrating, Isaiah was grieving. He reminded them of their behavior while Jerusalem was in fear. People were dead. Some of them from hunger since the city was without food for a long time. Some of them, their leaders, tried to escape. They were captured and made slaves. The enemy didn't have to shoot a single arrow at them.

Even after all that, the people were not humbled before God. Remember back in chapter nine; destruction was predicted, but the people said, "no big deal, we will rebuild our buildings destroyed by the enemy, we will replant our forests cut down by our enemy." This overconfident attitude kept them from honoring God, and heeding His warnings.

Then, Isaiah flashes back to what took place during the blockade of Jerusalem by Assyria. Read Isaiah 22:5-14. No one could go in or out of the city. No food could be brought in. The Assyrians and their allies, the people of Elam and Kir, completely surrounded the city, and must have done mini attacks that broke down places in the wall, leaving gaps. The water storage was also threatened. So, the people of Jerusalem tried to arm themselves with weapons from the "Palace of the Forest." This was a large building built by King Solomon where war weapons were stored. The roof was held up by large cedar posts inside the building.

Then the people, seeing where the wall had been destroyed, tore down houses and used the materials to rebuild the walls. They dug out a new pool to store additional water. All this was done without consulting God. We should not see this as a warning against being prepared for attack, instead they were warned that they should be in touch with God about how they prepared.

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God called the people to be sorrowful, to show their humility. Instead, the people focused their attention on having fun, because “tomorrow we die!” This phrase should not be seen as their worry about dying. It was their sarcasm about the prophesy of punishment from God.

Then, God spoke to Shebna. This guy was in charge of the palace, servants of the king, and had official duties in running the country. He probably inherited his job from his father. At this time, he was probably second in command to King Hezekiah. He was also probably among the Judeans who wanted to be allies with Egypt. He was in direct conflict with Isaiah’s prophesy. Read Isaiah 22:15-25.

The first thing God said to Shebna was that he had mistakenly assumed that he could prepare a grave for himself where only the kings were buried. God said that He would roll him up like a ball...think mashing a clay figure into a lump. Then God would throw this lump called Shebna far away. He was later removed from his important place in the King’s government. He was a disgrace as a leader and advisor to the king.

Finally, God promised to replace Shebna with Eliakim (E-li’-uh-kim). God called Eliakim “my servant.” Then God said that He would:

1. Clothe him with Shebna’s robe,
2. Put Shebna’s official sash around him,
3. Give him all Shebna’s authority,
4. Make him like a father to the people of Jerusalem and Judah,
5. Give him the official key to the royal palace and what he opens and closes will remain so, but then, Eliakim would also fall, like a peg broken off where it enters the wall.

For us today, we should see that it is very dangerous not to include God in our planning. God sees what lies ahead, and knows His plans for us. Also, we must not assume that simply because we are given a job we are guaranteed success nor that God will continue to use us even if we don’t do the job right.

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

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**Scripture Memory:** “You built a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the Old Pool but you did not look to the One who made it, or have regard for the one who planned it long ago.” Isaiah 22:11

**Lesson Goal:** To encourage students to always include God in their plans.

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## Student Worksheet

### Doom on Jerusalem and Shebna—Isaiah 22

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

1. What was the occasion of the rejoicing mentioned in our Scripture today?
2. What was Isaiah doing while the people of Judah were rejoicing?
3. What was the situation in Jerusalem during the blockade by Assyria?
4. Where did the people get material to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem?
5. What was Shebna's job?
6. What two pieces of Shebna's clothing did God say that He would give Eliakim?

**Scripture Memory:** "You built a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the Old Pool but you did not look to the One who made it, or have regard for the one who planned it long ago." Isaiah 22:11

#### **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.