

**Isaiah**

**The Lord Is Salvation**

**The  
Book Of  
Woes  
Part Three**

**Isaiah 30**

**Lesson Thirty-Two**

*Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum*

# Isaiah

**The Lord Is Salvation**

## **The Book Of Woes, Part Three**

Our Scripture lesson today begins with “Woe to the obstinate children.” Other translations use the words “rebellious children.” One of the favorite phrases of obstinate, rebellious children is “I want to do it my way!” This was God’s accusation against Judah. Read Isaiah 30:1-7.

We have here two oracles. Both of them talk about how useless it would be to depend on Egypt for safety and protection. At this time, the pharaoh of Egypt was Shabako. He was a good ruler and obviously the Judeans trusted him, but their trust wasn’t wise.

Isaiah, quoting God, gave them two reasons they should not make a treaty with Egypt. (Representatives from Judah were going to Egypt to finalize the treaty.) First and most importantly they had not consulted God. According to I Kings 22, the rulers of Israel were to consult with God’s prophet before making a serious decision like this treaty. The second thing Isaiah said was that the military help Egypt could give would not be any real help to Judah. This was true when Assyria defeated Egypt later on. God said that He called Egypt by the name Rahab, a name which means to “sit still.” Egypt was a do-nothing. This name “Rahab” was another name for Leviathan (dragon) who we met back in the twenty-seventh chapter. Egypt may seem like a fearsome dragon, but that dragon only sat around and breathed fire.

God said that the treaty with Egypt would be an embarrassment to Judah. Even though Egypt, through military activity, had greatly enlarged their borders, they were in no position to take on the mighty Assyria. The protection (shade) of Egypt would be a shame for Judah. Not only was Judah’s action childish, it was totally disrespectful of God. Read Isaiah 30:8-14.

God told Isaiah to put his message in writing. It would be available for a long time to tell the world about Judah’s rebellion. It is available today, more than 2,700 years later. God said that Judah had tried to keep the prophets quiet. The leaders of Judah wanted the criticism of their activities to stop. Obviously, they thought that they knew more than God. They were tired of listening to the prophets, Isaiah in particular, talk about “the Holy One of Israel” and what He wanted the leaders to do.

We get another powerful picture: In those days, the cities protected themselves with thick, high walls. Hezekiah, the King in Isaiah’s day extended the wall of Jerusalem. The base of that wall, visible today, is about 22 feet wide. How high it was is only a guess. The wall rebuilt by Herod in the time of Jesus, was about 30 feet, six inches high. Houses were built on the top of some of the walls. Sometimes the area behind the wall was built up and that put pressure on the wall. With that pressure, the wall bulged, cracked and finally collapsed. God said that

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their sin was building up pressure. Soon it would break and they would fall, suddenly.

The second picture is of a bowl which falls from the potter's wheel and breaks. Usually the broken pieces of such pots or jugs would be kept and used to scoop up hot coals, or dip a little water. When Judah falls, it will be so shattered (just dust) it will be totally useless.

In another oracle, God tells Judah the right and wrong way to safety. First, the true way to safety is revealed as returning to God and, in faith, resting in His protection. But the leaders of Judah chose the wrong way; they wanted to fight their own battles. Read Isaiah 30:15-17.

A thousand soldiers of Judah will run from one enemy soldier and if five enemy soldiers wave their swords and spears, the whole nation will run for cover. Judah will be like a lonely flag left on the top of a hill. This happened in 701 BC when Jerusalem was the only city left standing by the Assyrians.

In the last part of this chapter we have two promises. First, God assures Judah that He continues to be with them, even if they don't deserve it. Read Isaiah 30: 22. If they would tell their idols, "Away with you!" He promised to answer their prayers, to reveal Himself to them, to be their teacher, to be their guide, to bring rain and good conditions for great crops and healthy herds, and He would heal all the wounds which were the result of God's punishment. Read Isaiah 30:18, 19, 21, 26.

The second promise is that Assyria will suffer God's wrath. Read Isaiah 30:27-28, 31, 33. God said that His punishment would fall on Assyria. According to this, God will come from far off and will attack the Assyrians like a storm of fire and like a burning flood. The Lord will strike Assyria with His arm. There will be no escape.

Meanwhile, Judah will be rejoicing, much as they did after the death angel passed over in Egypt. It will be rejoicing of deliverance, not rejoicing in the destruction of the enemy. When God saves us from danger or defeat, we should be thankful and rejoice.

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

### Page Three

**Scripture Memory:** "This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel says: In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength..." Isaiah 30:15

**Lesson Goal:** To show God's power and willingness to help us even when we are sinners.

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## Student Worksheet

### **The Book of Woes Part Three—Isaiah 30**

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

1. What were the two reasons Judah should not make a treaty with Egypt?
2. What are the two pictures of the fall of Jerusalem?
3. What are the right and wrong ways to safety?
4. What are the two promises of God seen in the last part of this chapter?

**Scripture Memory:** “This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel says: In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength...” Isaiah 30:15

#### **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.