

**Isaiah**

**The Lord Is Salvation**

**The  
Final  
Judgment**

**Isaiah 34:1-4**

**Lesson Thirty-Six**

*Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum*

# Isaiah

**The Lord Is Salvation**

## **The Final Judgment**

What we are going to talk about today can be pretty frightening. As a matter of fact, we should probably call this “*The Terrible Destruction of the Nations of the World.*” Read Isaiah 34:1-4.

We have said several times in our study of Isaiah that some of his prophecies just don’t fit into history, at least up to this point. This is another one. There is not a time in history when the terrible things Isaiah predicted here have happened. And, since Isaiah has referred to the end of time previously, we must assume that God was showing him things that would happen centuries after he lived...the end of the world as we know it.

First is a call to listen. He said to come up close. You know, when someone tells you to be sure you are close enough to hear correctly, they usually have something important to say. God calls not only the nations, but the individuals in those nations to listen.

The seriousness of the call gives the impression of the seriousness of the message. God is about to reveal something that will affect the whole world. So, He insists that the earth and all that is in it, the world and all that comes out of it, listen to this message. That includes just about all that there is...at least on and in the earth.

The message begins with the threatening, dark words, “The Lord is angry...” Angry! It is a fearful sight when someone gets really angry. They can get red in the face, mouth set, eyes blazing, sometimes even waving their fist. We should be careful about making our image of God like that of a human, but here we should think of Him as filled with such wrath, or fury, that He must act on it. As we have said many times, God must act in justice and righteousness. However long it takes, He will see that justice is done...that wrongs are made right.

The prophecy begins in verse two and is very much like what we read in Zechariah 14:3ff. Also, this is in agreement with Revelation 19:19-21.

The picture is a frightening one, as was stated at the beginning of the lesson. The whole picture as we see in all the accounts just mentioned, is of attacking armies. Many nations were coming against Jerusalem. This can only mean doom and destruction for Jerusalem. But, God is not willing to let that happen. He is angry that they have attacked. Of course, He is protective of His people. So, the battle turns very quickly.

The Psalmist in Psalm 102:26 says that even the heavens and earth will pass away, but God will not. Hebrews 1:11 repeats that truth. This prediction of the end of time fits our Scripture lesson for today.

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# Isaiah

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It seems that the end of time is more the place where Isaiah wants to be than in his own time. We should see this prophecy as speaking of God's final act in all of history. According to Isaiah 34:2, God is going to destroy all nations and their armies. All the people will die!

Verse three is one of the most awful pictures in all the Bible. He said that the bodies of the dead will decompose. They will stink. Of course, if all are dead, there will be no one to bury the dead.

There will be so much blood that the mountains will be covered with it and it will run down the sides of the mountains like streams of water. Isaiah was picturing the final destruction of humanity as vividly as he could.

In verse four we find the destruction of the universe. It is obvious that when Adam and Eve sinned their sin and all sin that followed them not only ruined humans, but all of God's perfect creation. This is taught throughout the Bible.

If that is true, then at the end, all of the universe must be judged and made clean. And, like it is necessary to burn some things to get rid of the infection, dirt or smell, God will get out all the stain of sin.

The sky will be rolled up like a scroll. As you know, the books of that day were actually something like paper, parchment, which was rolled up on a short wooden pole. The writing parchment would sometimes be as long as fifteen feet or more, and usually ten to twelve inches wide. The picture here is of what we see when we look up being rolled up from one side to the other to be stored away. And the stars would fall like the leaves do in the autumn...or like rotten figs falling from the tree.

Well, well, what should we take away from today's lesson? First, God will not let the sins against His people go unpunished. Second, God will definitely bring justice. Third, God has the power to terminate all things, even the stars and the sky. Fourth, when God is angry, He acts in ways that are best for His people. Fifth, God warns us of His judgment.

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

### Page Three

**Scripture Memory:** "The Lord is angry with all nations; His wrath is upon all their armies. He will totally destroy them, He will give them over to slaughter. Isaiah 34:2.

**Lesson Goal:** To encourage students to see the God, even though He is the God of love, He will follow through with His promise to make all things right.

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## Student Worksheet

### **The Final Judgment—Isaiah 34:1-4**

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

1. God must act in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. However long it takes, He will see that justice is done...that \_\_\_\_\_ are made \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Why was God angry?
3. What do Psalm 102 and Hebrews 11:1 say?
4. What does the lesson say about verse three?
5. What does the lesson say will happen to the stars at the end of time?
6. What does the lesson say God does for His people when He is angry?

**Scripture Memory:** “The Lord is angry with all nations; His wrath is upon all their armies. He will totally destroy them, He will give them over to slaughter. Isaiah 34:2.

#### **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.