

The Prophecies of Isaiah ⁵¹

Lesson 22

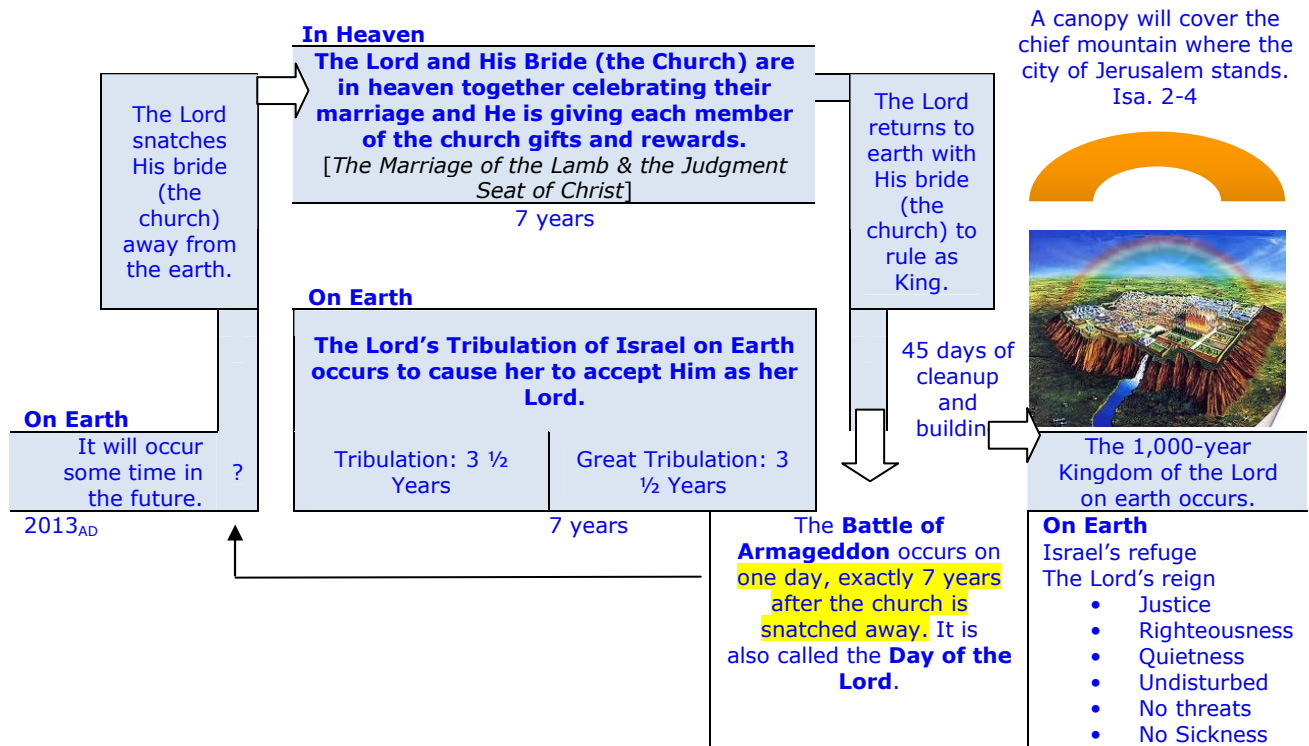
Isaiah's Presentation Format Vision 21 <i>Chapter 30:6 – 35:10</i>	Part 1 <i>Far Prophecy</i> The Lord will punish the nation that attempts to capture the Israelites as they try to run to Egypt for help.	Part 2a <i>Near Prophecy</i> The Lord warns Israel, Egypt & Assyria because they have ignored Him.	Part 2b & 3 <i>Far Prophecy</i> The Lord details the characters who will be with Him and the characteristics of life in His kingdom.
	Isa. 30:7-33	Isa. 31	Isa. 32-35

Figure 48: Vision 21 Presentation

Far Prophecy

Indignation Against Nations

Isaiah 34:1 Draw near, O nations, to hear; and listen, O peoples! Let the earth and all it contains hear, and the world and all that springs from it. ² For the LORD'S indignation is against all the nations, And His wrath against all their armies; He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to slaughter. ³ So their slain will be thrown out, And their corpses will give off their stench, And the mountains will be drenched with their blood.



Time Line 3: Last Days - General Overview

⁵¹ All Scriptures in this lesson entitled "The Prophecies of Isaiah" are taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE, Copyright (C) 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1988, by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

The Lord adds more details to the events that will transpire on the Day of Armageddon specifically in the land of the Negev, the focal point of this 21st vision. The evil army from the world gathers in the valley of Armageddon to the north of Jerusalem while the Edomites are controlling and living in the Negev to the south. When the Lord arrives, He will destroy the Edomites in the Negev because of all they have done to Israel over the years, especially in the last portion of the tribulation. Then, the Lord will proceed to the valley of Armageddon where He will completely destroy the evil army from all over the world that gathered there in an attempt to defeat Him.

Far Prophecy

Host of Heaven Withers Away

Isaiah 34:4 And all the host of heaven will wear away, And the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; All their hosts will also wither away As a leaf withers from the vine, Or as *one* withers from the fig tree. ⁵ For My sword is satiated in heaven, Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom, And upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction.

When the Lord comes to destroy the armies gathered in Armageddon, "the host of heaven will wear away." The host, which is comprised of those who followed Satan and became demons in the beginning, will be gathered with the evil army in the valley of Armageddon. They, too, must be destroyed when the Lord returns and they, too, will have nowhere to run

because "the sky will be rolled up like a scroll." This simile is used again in the Book of Revelation which details the culmination of this vision.



Figure 49: Sky rolls up like a scroll

Revelation 6:12 And I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth *made* of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; ¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. ¹⁴ And the sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

The "stars of the sky" that John sees falling when the sky is "split apart" and begins to roll up as a scroll are the demons of the prince of the air who are trying to escape from the indignation of the Lord. They will rot away with those human beings in the valley of Armageddon, but their destruction will occur after the Lord's sword, "satiated" or satisfied in heaven, is ready to destroy Edom and all the other enemies.

Far Prophecy

Sword of the Lord Filled with Blood

Isaiah 34:6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, It is sated with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats, With the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, And a great slaughter in the land of Edom. ⁷ Wild oxen shall also fall with them, And young bulls with strong ones; Thus their land shall be soaked with blood, And their dust become greasy with fat. ⁸ For the LORD has a day of vengeance, A year of recompense for the cause of Zion.

Bozrah will be mentioned again by Isaiah in Chapter 63.

Isaiah 63:1 Who is this who comes from Edom, With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah, This One who is majestic in His apparel, Marching in the greatness of His strength? "It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." ² Why is

Your apparel red, And Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press? ³
" I have trodden the wine trough alone, And from the peoples there was no man
with Me. I also trod them in My anger, And trampled them in My wrath; And their
lifeblood is sprinkled on My garments, And I stained all My raiment.

When the Lord returns, He will destroy Edom with His sword. The slaughter will be especially great in the area of Bozrah which sits in the heart of Edom territory 25 miles south of the Dead Sea. During the days of Edom's control of the land, people sacrificed animals to false gods at Bozrah. Although the Edomites are cousins of Israel, the descendants of Jacob's brother Esau, they have wandered over the years far from the worship of the true Lord. The sons of Esau became the dukes of Edom and ultimately the rulers of the Arabian Peninsula. It did not take long for Edom to become the fierce enemy of Israel. About seven hundred years before this vision, when Moses asked Edom for permission to cross over the Edomite land to enter the Promised Land from the east, Moses was denied access. It did not stop Moses who marched his people through the middle of the land. The Lord will do to Edom what she has done to the animals in her false worship; He will slaughter her and her blood will stain His garment before He reaches Armageddon.

Far Prophecy

Edom's Destruction

Isaiah 34:9 And its streams shall be turned into pitch, And its loose earth into brimstone, And its land shall become burning pitch. ¹⁰ It shall not be quenched night or day; Its smoke shall go up forever; From generation to generation it shall be desolate; None shall pass through it forever and ever.

Edom's destruction will be complete, removing all Edomites from the land forever. Not one Edomite will ever walk across the land again. The destruction will be so complete that even the rivers will be turned into tar pits and filled with burning meteorites and flaming tar. The destruction at Bozrah will remain an eternal remembrance for all time.

Far Prophecy

Plumb Line of Emptiness

Isaiah 34:11 But pelican and hedgehog shall possess it, And owl and raven shall dwell in it; And He shall stretch over it the line of desolation And the plumb line of emptiness.

The area of Edom's land, specifically the Bozrah portion, will be set aside for the animals to possess. Where they were once sacrifices, animals will now rule the land empty of all Edomites.

Far Prophecy

Nobles and Princes of Edom Gone

Isaiah 34:12 Its nobles-- there is no one there ~~whom~~ they may proclaim king-- And all its princes shall be nothing.

Edom will never have a noble in control of the land again. Edom will never produce kings or princes because all the Edomites have been destroyed.

Far Prophecy

Edom Overgrown and Animal Invested

Isaiah 34:13 And thorns shall come up in its fortified towers, nettles and thistles in its fortified cities; It shall also be a haunt of jackals *and* an abode of ostriches. ¹⁴ And the desert creatures shall meet with the wolves, the hairy goat also shall cry to its kind; Yes, the night monster shall settle there And shall find herself a resting place. ¹⁵ The tree snake shall make its nest and lay *eggs* there, and it will hatch and gather *them* under its protection. Yes, the hawks shall be gathered there, everyone with its kind.

All of Edom's land will be overgrown with wild vegetation and wild animals, a blessed place for the animals to make their homes. When Isaiah writes these words, Edom is still inhabited by the Edomites. During the days of Nebuchadnezzar, the Edomites expand into the Negev and control it. At that time they are renamed Idumeans. King Herod the Great is an Idumean, supposedly of the Jewish faith. In 70 AD, when Titus destroys the Temple in Jerusalem to put down a Jewish revolt, a small portion of the Idumeans move to the Gaza strip area and intermarry with the Philistines. The original land of the Edomites is abandoned at that time and continues to be in desolate today. At the time of Obadiah's prophecy, Edom is still populated.

Obadiah 1:18 "Then the house of Jacob will be a fire And the house of Joseph a flame; But the house of Esau *will be* as stubble. And they will set them on fire and consume them, So that there will be no survivor of the house of Esau,"
For the LORD has

Far Prophecy

Seek From the Book of the Lords

Isaiah 34:16 Seek from the book of the LORD, and read: Not one of these will be missing; none will lack its mate. For His mouth has commanded, And His Spirit has gathered them. ¹⁷ And He has cast the lot for them, and His hand has divided it to them by line. They shall possess it forever; From generation to generation they shall dwell in it.

Because of their God-given instinct, the animals will gather in Edom's land in the Negev. Here, Isaiah is telling the people of the Southern Kingdom that it will happen just as it happened when the Lord brought the animals to Adam and then to Noah in the record prepared by Moses. The animals will control the land from generation to generation but only to a point, only to the line that the Lord draws in the sand.

Far Prophecy

Negev to See the Glory of the Lord

Isaiah 35:1 The wilderness and the desert will be glad, and the Arabah will rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² It will blossom profusely And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the LORD, The majesty of our God.

Several species of crocuses grow throughout the land of Israel, Phoenicia and the Negev and in season they are covered with blossoms. It is the flower mentioned in Solomon's Song as the rose of Sharon.

Song of Songs 2:1 " I am the rose of Sharon, The lily of the valleys."

Isaiah 35:2 mentions Sharon and Lebanon as their homes. Today, this flower is known as narcissus. With the glorious Lord on the throne in His 1,000 year kingdom, the atmosphere will be as pleasant and fragrant as the fields of the rose of Sharon.

The Arabah runs south of the Dead Sea. Before the Dead Sea was created by the Lord's destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the river of the Arabah was the part of the Jordan River that ran to the eastern tongue of the Red Sea. The change in the topography of the district will once again provide an abundance of fresh running water in the Arabah.

Far Prophecy

Recompense of God Comes and Saves

Isaiah 34:3 Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen the feeble. ⁴ Say to those with anxious heart, "Take courage, fear not. Behold, your God will come *with* vengeance; The recompense of God will come, But He will save you."

When the Lord arrives, He will bring salvation to the Negev as well as to the rest of the world. He will come to reward "with vengeance" to remove all His and Israel's enemies. By the time of His arrival, Israel will be exhausted and feeble but He will encourage her and bring her strength.

Far Prophecy

Negev Transformed

Isaiah 34:5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. ⁶ Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb will shout for joy. For waters will break forth in the wilderness And streams in the Arabah. ⁷ And the scorched land will become a pool, And the thirsty ground springs of water; In the haunt of jackals, its resting place, Grass *becomes* reeds and rushes.

Isaiah provides further descriptions of the Lord's kingdom. Lives will be changed in the kingdom with everyone being able to see, hear, walk, run, speak and "shout for joy." The desert wilderness of the Negev will spring forth with life from the river that runs out from underneath the throne and down through the Arabah; Ezekiel describes it in his prophecy.

Ezekiel 47:1 Then he brought me back to the door of the house; and behold, water was flowing from under the threshold of the house toward the east, for the house faced east. And the water was flowing down from under, from the right side of the house, from south of the altar. ² And he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate by way of *the gate* that faces east. And behold, water was trickling from the south side. ³ When the man went out toward the east with a line in his hand, he measured a thousand cubits, and he led me through the water, water *reaching* the ankles. ⁴ Again he measured a thousand and led me through the water, water *reaching* the knees. Again he measured a thousand and led me through *the water*, water *reaching* the loins. ⁵ Again he measured a thousand; *and it was* a river that I could not ford, for the water had risen, *enough* water to swim in, a river that could not be forded. ⁶ And he said to me, "Son of man, have you seen *this*?" Then he brought me back to the bank of the river. ⁷ Now when I had returned, behold, on the bank of the river there *were* very many trees on the one side and on the other. ⁸ Then he said to me, "These waters go out toward the eastern region and go down into the Arabah; then they go toward the sea, being made to flow into the sea, and the waters *of the sea* become fresh. ⁹ "And it will come about that every living creature which swarms in every place where the river goes, will live. And there will be very many fish, for these waters go there, and *the others* become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes. ¹⁰ "And it will come about that fishermen will stand beside it; from Engedi to Eneglaim there will be a place for the spreading of nets. Their fish will be according to their kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea, very many. ¹¹ "But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt. ¹² "And by the river on its bank, on one side and on the other, will grow all *kinds of* trees for food. Their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear every month because their water flows from the sanctuary, and their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing."

A river flows out from the back of the Temple toward the east on the south side of the altar. It starts as a trickle and 1750 feet out, the water is ankle deep; in another 1750 feet, the water is knee deep; 1750 feet further, the water is deep enough to swim in without touching the bottom. The river runs to the Arabah making it fresh water. It is full of fish and creatures and everything lives where the river flows. Fishermen can fish from Engedi to Eneglaim. But all the swamps and marshes in the area are "left for salt." The trees on the banks bear their fruit every month for food. The leaves are used for healing.

Far Prophecy

Highway of Holiness

Isaiah 34:8 And a highway will be there, a roadway, And it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, But it *will* be for him who walks *that way*, And fools will not wander *on it*.

The "Highway of Holiness" will run from the Nile to the Euphrates river to enable all of Israel to travel to see the Lord on His throne. The "unclean" and the "fool" will not be on that road because they will be eliminated from the Lord's worldwide kingdom.

Far Prophecy

Ransomed of the Lord Returned

Isaiah 34:9 No lion will be there, Nor will any vicious beast go up on it; These will not be found there. But the redeemed will walk *there*,¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD will return, And come with joyful shouting to Zion, With everlasting joy upon their heads. They will find gladness and joy, And sorrow and sighing will flee away.

The "Highway of Holiness" can be traveled without fear of man or "vicious beast." It is a highway for the redeemed of the Lord, those He purchased with His own blood. And all the redeemed will shout joyfully on that road to Zion with no tears of sorrow ever upon their faces.

Passage	Summary	Time of Fulfillment
Isa. 30:7-33	<i>Far Prophecy</i> The Lord will punish the nation that attempts to capture the Israelites as they try to run to Egypt for help.	Will be fulfilled at the Lord's Second Coming
Isa. 31	<i>Near Prophecy</i> The Lord warns Israel, Egypt & Assyria because they have ignored Him.	Fulfilled in 712 BC
Isa. 32-35	<i>Far Prophecy</i> The Lord details the characters who will be with Him and the characteristics of life in His kingdom.	Will be fulfilled at the Lord's Second Coming

Figure 50: Fulfillment of Prophecy 21