

The Prophecies of Isaiah ⁶²

Lesson 29

Near Prophecy

OBSINATE ISRAEL – IN NAME ONLY

Isaiah 48:1 " Hear this, O house of Jacob, who are named Israel And who came forth from the loins of Judah, Who swear by the name of the LORD And invoke the God of Israel, *But* not in truth nor in righteousness.

"O house of Jacob," is a direct reference to Isaac's son whose name the Lord changed to Israel. His sons were Rueben, Simeon, Gad, Issachar, Asher, Dan, Naphtali, Zebulun, Judah, Levi, Joseph and Benjamin. At the time of Vision 22 in 710 BC, all the tribes are in exile except Judah and Benjamin

Northern Kingdom	Southern Kingdom
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rueben• Simeon• Gad• Issachar• Asher• Dan• Naphtali• Zebulun• Manasseh (In Joseph's place)• Ephraim (In Levi's place)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Judah• Benjamin

Figure 54: The Divided Kingdom by Tribes

which make up the Southern Kingdom. When the kingdom divides in 959 BC, the Northern Kingdom takes the name Israel and the Southern Kingdom takes the name Judah because it is larger than Benjamin. Therefore, this portion of the vision is directed specifically at the leaders of Judah, the Southern Kingdom.

Once again the Lord reveals that not all persons who are born into the bloodline of the nation of Israel will truly belong to the Lord and enter into His promises. They will participate in the rituals of the traditions but those actions will mean nothing in their hearts. This warning is not new. The Lord delivered it to the original nation of Israel just 90 days after they left Egypt when He gathered them at the foot of Mt. Sinai and spoke to the entire assembly from within the cloud that covered the mountain. She was warned to have no other god besides Him, yet, she quickly forgot. Within days they built the golden calf and sinned against the Lord.

Near Prophecy

OBSINATE ISRAEL – IN BLASHEMOUS ASSERTIONS

Isaiah 48:2 "For they call themselves after the holy city, And lean on the God of Israel; The LORD of hosts is His name. ³"I declared the former things long ago And they went forth from My mouth, and I proclaimed them. Suddenly I acted, and they came

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to pass. ⁴ "Because I know that you are obstinate, And your neck is an iron sinew, And your forehead bronze, ⁵ Therefore I declared *them* to you long ago, Before they took place I proclaimed *them* to you, Lest you should say, 'My idol has done them, And my graven image and my molten image have commanded them.' ⁶ "You have heard; look at all this. And you, will you not declare it? I proclaim to you new things from this time, Even hidden things which you have not known. ⁷ "They are created now and not long ago; And before today you have not heard them, Lest you should say, 'Behold, I knew them.' ⁸ "You have not heard, you have not known. Even from long ago your ear has not been open, Because I knew that you would deal very treacherously; And you have been called a rebel from birth.

From 1475 BC to this vision in 710 BC, Israel has struggled to put away her idols and remain true to the Lord alone. From the earliest days the Lord's prophets have foretold the future to Israel as spokesmen of the living God; however, certain leaders of Israel blasphemed against the Lord by proclaiming that the works of the Lord were accomplished by the idols they had created with their own hands. It was a treacherous response to the living God. For that reason, the Lord proclaimed many prophecies hundreds of years before they would be fulfilled so that no one could attribute their fulfillment to anyone but the living God. Even so, many people in the nation of Israel will rebel against the Lord and proclaim to their peers that their gods accomplished the task. Idols cannot speak. Graven images cannot command. Molten images cannot prophesy. In spite of this knowledge, some people will always refuse to render unto the Lord that which belong to the Lord.



Picture 15: The Holy City - Jerusalem

Near Prophecy

OBSINATE ISRAEL – PROTECTED BY THE LORD

Isaiah 48:9 " For the sake of My name I delay My wrath, And *for* My praise I restrain *it* for you, In order not to cut you off. ¹⁰ "Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. ¹¹ " For My own sake, for My own sake, I will act; For how can *My name* be profaned? And My glory I will not give to another. ¹² "Listen to Me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He, I am the first, I am also the last. ¹³ "Surely My hand founded the earth, And My right hand spread out the heavens; When I call to them, they stand together. ¹⁴ " Assemble, all of you, and listen! Who among them has declared these things? The LORD loves him; he shall carry out His good pleasure on Babylon, And His arm *shall be against* the Chaldeans. ¹⁵ "I, even I, have spoken; indeed I have called him, I have brought him, and He will make his ways successful. ¹⁶ " Come near to Me, listen to this: From the first I have not spoken in secret, From the time it took place, I was there. And now the Lord

GOD has sent Me, and His Spirit." ¹⁷ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, Who leads you in the way you should go.

This passage is filled with characteristics of the majesty of the Lord. Each one is included to instruct Israel of His power and plan for her nation. He will not let Israel thwart His intentions, nor will He quickly punish her for her sins. He has chosen Israel and will ultimately present her as the premiere nation of the world to prove His own glory and He will not let anyone, even blood-born Jews who belong to the nation in name only, destroy the Lord's purpose.

Near Prophecy

OBSINATE ISRAEL – THE LORD'S PLEA TO WICKED ISRAEL

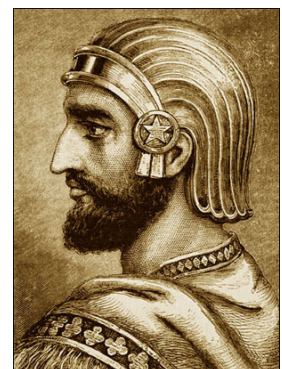
Isaiah 48:18 "If only you had paid attention to My commandments! Then your well-being would have been like a river, And your righteousness like the waves of the sea. ¹⁹ "Your descendants would have been like the sand, And your offspring like its grains; Their name would never be cut off or destroyed from My presence." ²⁰ Go forth from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans! Declare with the sound of joyful shouting, proclaim this, Send it out to the end of the earth; Say, " The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob." ²¹ And they did not thirst when He led them through the deserts. He made the water flow out of the rock for them; He split the rock, and the water gushed forth. ²² " There is no peace for the wicked," says the LORD.

"If only you had paid attention ...," the Lord says. How many times have parents, teachers, and employers made this statement? It does not originate with them; it originates with the Lord. Untold numbers of Jewish people have died in rebellion to the Lord's commands.

Stubborn intentional rebellion never brings the Lord's blessing. If they had only "Paid attention" to the Lord's commandments, teaching and living the commandments, the division of the kingdom never would have occurred. Nevertheless, they forgot and ignored the commandments of the Lord. To be brief, had they only paid attention to the Ten Commandments, they would had flourished in the world, but they could not even hold to just those ten much less the rest of the laws put in place by the Lord while they lived in the wilderness. To Babylon they will go for punishment; from Babylon they will return as proof that He is the only living Lord they can depend on and trust and no other god exists. He is Israel's provider, but Israel is wicked; therefore, she will not experience peace until she turns to Him as her sole Redeemer and Savior.

The Majesty of the Lord

- He is the first and the last.
- He founded the earth.
- He spread out the heavens.
- He loves Israel.
- He will punish Babylon.
- He does not speak in secret.
- He has always been here.
- He and the Spirit were been sent by God.
- He is the Redeemer.
- He is the Holy One of Israel.
- He teaches Israel to profit.
- He leads Israel in her paths.



Picture 16: Cyrus the Great

For eight chapters, the Lord has shown his majesty and His plan to restore the Jews from Babylon through His servant Cyrus. At this point in Vision 22, the focus shifts from The Majesty of the Lord to the Suffering of the Lord as the Servant-Messiah of the Jews.

Section 1	Section 2	Section 3
The Majesty of the Lord Isaiah 40 – 48	The Suffering of the Lord Isaiah 49-57	The Coming of the Lord Isaiah 58-66

Section 2, The Suffering of the Lord can be divided into four parts:

Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 4
Because the Jews reject the Servant, salvation is taken to the Gentiles. Isaiah 49-50	A remnant of the Jews will believe in the Servant and be exalted. Isaiah 51:1-52:12	The Servant will suffer and then He will be exalted. Isaiah 52:13-53:12	The Servant will bring salvation to the Jews and the Gentiles. Isaiah 54-57

As Hezekiah listens to Isaiah present this vision, the world is continuing to function. Sargon II is still the king in Assyria. Sennacherib, Sargon's son, will become the king in five years in 705 BC. The first black Ethiopian kings are the Pharaohs in Egypt's 25th Dynasty. The Assyrians have devastated the Babylon usurpers. Nine years will pass before Nineveh will become the capital of Assyria under Sennacherib. Micah's ministry in the Southern Kingdom is over; Isaiah is the lone prophet for a few more years. Hezekiah will soon deliver this vision to the two tribes under his rule. He is about to learn about the Servant of the Lord who is the Savior of all the people of the world.