

# Isaiah

## “The Evangelical Prophet”

### I. God’s Denunciation of Judah (1:1-12:6)

- A. The Condemnation of Judah (1:1-2:1-4)
- B. The Cleansing Judgments to Come (2:5-5:30)
- C. The Calling of Isaiah (6:1-13)
- D. The Coming of Messiah (7:1-12:6)

### II. God’s Denunciations against other Nations (13:1-23:18)

#### A. The Judgment against Babylon (13:1-22)

- 1. A “*Divinely*” appointed Army Mobilized (13:1-5)
- 2. A “*Day*” of Destruction Declared (13:6-13)
- 3. A *Dispersion* and Annihilation Described (13:14-16)
- 4. A *Disclosing* of the invading Army (13:17-18)
- 5. A *Devastating* Aftermath (13:19-22)

#### B. The Judgment of the King of Babylon (14:1-23)

##### 1. The *Divine Restoration* of Israel (14:1-2)

**14** When the LORD will have **compassion** on **Jacob** and again **choose Israel**, and **settle them** in their **own land**, then **strangers** will **join** them and **attach** themselves to the **house of Jacob**.

<sup>2</sup>The **peoples** will take them along and **bring them to their place**, and the house of **Israel** will **possess them** as an **inheritance** in the **land** of the LORD as male **servants** and female **servants**; and they will take their **captors captive** and will **rule over** their **oppressors**.

##### 2. The *Derisive* “Taunt” against the **King of Babylon** (14:3-11)

- a. His *Oppressive* power “**broken**” (14:3-8)
- b. His *Opulent* position **eradicated** (14:9-11)

<sup>3</sup>And it will be in **the day** when the LORD gives **you (Israel)** **rest** from your **pain** and **turmoil** and **harsh service** in which you have been **enslaved**,

<sup>4</sup>that you will take up **this taunt** against the **king of Babylon**, and say,

“How the **oppressor** has **ceased**,  
And how **fury** has **ceased!**

<sup>5</sup>“The **LORD** has **broken** the **staff** of the **wicked**,  
the **scepter** of **rulers** <sup>6</sup> which used  
to **strike** the peoples in **fury** with **unceasing strokes**,  
which **subdued** the nations in **anger** with **unrestrained persecution**.

<sup>7</sup>“The **whole earth** is at **rest** and is **quiet**;  
they break forth into **shouts of joy**.

<sup>8</sup>“Even the cypress **trees** rejoice over you,  
and the **cedars** of Lebanon, *saying*,  
Since you were **laid low**, no **tree cutter** comes up against us.’

<sup>9</sup>“**Sheol** from beneath is **excited** over you to **meet you** when **you come**;  
It **arouses** for you the **spirits** of the **dead**,  
all the **leaders** of the **earth**;  
It **raises** all the **kings** of the **nations** from their **thrones**.

<sup>10</sup>“They will **all respond** and say to you,  
‘Even you have been **made weak** as **we**,  
You have become **like us**.

<sup>11</sup>‘Your **pomp** and the **music** of your **harps**  
have been **brought down** to **Sheol**;  
**Maggots** are spread out as **your bed** beneath you  
and **worms** are **your covering**.’

### 3. The **Downfall** of **Satan** (14:12-15)

<sup>12</sup>“How you have **fallen** from **heaven**,  
**O star** of the **morning**, **son** of the **dawn!**

**You** have been **cut down** to the **earth**,  
**You** who have **weakened** the **nations!**

<sup>13</sup>“But you said in your heart,  
‘*I will ascend* to **heaven**;  
*I will raise my throne above* the **stars of God**,  
and *I will sit* on the **mount** of **assembly**  
in the recesses of the **north**.

<sup>14</sup>‘*I will ascend above* the heights of the **clouds**;  
I will **make myself like** the **Most High**.’

<sup>15</sup>“Nevertheless you will be **thrust down** to **Sheol**,  
to the recesses of **the pit**.

### 4. The **Dishonoring death** of the **King** (14:16-20)

<sup>16</sup>“Those who see you will **gaze** at you,  
They will **ponder** over you, *saying*,

'Is this **the man** who made the **earth** tremble, who **shook *kingdoms***,

<sup>17</sup> Who made the **world** like a **wilderness** and **overthrew** its cities,  
Who did **not allow** his ***prisoners*** to ***go home***?'

<sup>18</sup> "All the **kings** of the **nations** lie ***in glory***, each in his **own tomb**.

<sup>19</sup> "But you have been **cast out** of your **tomb**  
like a **rejected branch**,  
***Clothed*** with the **slain** who are **pierced** with a **sword**,  
Who go down to the **stones** of the **pit**  
like a ***trampled corpse***.

## 5. The ***Demise*** of the **King's Posterity** (14:20-23)

<sup>20</sup> "You will **not** be ***united*** with them in ***burial***,  
Because you have ***ruined*** your **country**,  
You have ***slain*** your **people**.  
May the **offspring** of **evildoers** **not** be **mentioned** forever.

<sup>21</sup> "Prepare for **his sons** a place of **slaughter**  
***Because*** of the **iniquity** of their **fathers**.  
They must **not arise** and take **possession** of the **earth**  
and fill the face of the world with cities."

<sup>22</sup> "I will rise up **against** them," declares the **LORD of hosts**, "  
and will **cut off** from **Babylon name** and **survivors**, ***offspring*** and **posterity**,"  
declares the **LORD**.

<sup>23</sup> "I will also make it a possession for the **hedgehog**  
and **swamps** of water, and I will sweep it with the **broom of destruction**,"  
declares the **LORD of hosts**.

## **Message Summary and Key Observations**

- A. Having declared devastating **judgments** against **Babylon** in the last chapter (13), **Isaiah** begins the next chapter by **reassuring *Israel*** of her **survival** and **restoration** back to the **land**. ***Israel*** will **outlast** all of her **conquerors**, and receive "**rest**" from the "**pain** and **turmoil**" they had inflicted upon her. (14:1-3) The continued **survival** of the **Jews**, and their **establishment** in the **land today**, attests to the **faithfulness** of **God's promises** to those whom **He** has called.
- B. Tonight we read that **one day** the people of **Israel** will "**taunt**" the **king of Babylon** who had severely **oppressed**, **subdued**, and **persecuted them**, as well as other **nations**. For the **LORD** will **break** "the **staff** of the **wicked**," and the **whole earth** will "break forth into **shouts of joy** (14:4-7)." **Our world today** is filled with "**kings**" and **leaders** who use their **power** to **oppress** and **persecute others**, both **believers** and **unbelievers**. **One day**, maybe even soon, there will be a "**day of reckoning**," when the "**staff**" of the **wicked** will indeed **be broken** (14:5).

C. **Isaiah** describes how that, upon **his death**, the **king of Babylon** will be met with **excitement** by the inhabitants of **Sheol (Hades)**. Upon his arrival, the *spirits* of previous **leaders** and **kings** will be “**aroused**” to meet the **great king of Babylon**. Sadly, however, the **king** is met with **derision** and **mockery**, for in **Sheol**, he is now “**weak**” like they now are, and the “**pomp,**” **music**, and **creature comforts** afforded by his prior status as **king of Babylon** have now **vanished** (14:9-11).

The **key lesson** or **insight** that we can take from this is to realize that we **do not** carry with us to **eternal realms** the **same status** that we had in **this life**.

Whatever “**greatness**” and **power** one had will be *useless* and *powerless* in **Sheol**.

D. As **Isaiah** was describing the dramatic **fall** of the **king of Babylon**, his **prophetic words** seemed to be speaking of **one** who was of **greater stature**, who was the driving force **behind** the **king**. Many scholars believe these verses to be a reference to, and description of the **fall of Satan** →

- **who** has “**fallen** from **heaven**” (14:12a)
- **who** is the “**star** of the **morning**” (14:12b)
- **who** has been “**cut down** to the **earth**” (14:12c)
- **who** has “**weakened** the **nations**” (14:12d)
- **who** said he would “**ascend** to **heaven**” and **raise his throne** “**above** the **stars of God**” (14:13a)
- **who** declared his intent to “**sit** on the **mount of assembly**” governing among the gods, “in the recesses of the **north**” (14:13b)
- **who** said he would “**ascend** above the heights of the **clouds**,” and make himself “**like the Most High**” (14:14)
- **who** would be “**thrust down** to **Sheol**, to the recesses of the **pit**” (14:15)

The **seventy (followers)** returned with **joy**, saying,  
“Lord, even the **demons** are **subject to us** in **Your name**.”

And **He (Jesus)** said to them,  
“I was watching **Satan fall from heaven** like **lightning**. (Luke 10:17-18)

Then the **fifth angel** sounded,  
and I saw a **star** from **heaven** which had **fallen** to the **earth**;  
and the **key** of the **bottomless pit** was **given to him**. (Revelation 9:1)

## Closing Exhortation

### Avoiding the *Arrogance* of the **King**

**Pride** goes before **destruction**,  
And a **haughty spirit** before **stumbling**. (Proverbs 16:18)