

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

VI. Isaiah’s Divine *Prophecies* of Consolation for **Israel** (40:1-48:22)

G. The *Preeminence* of the God of Israel (45:1-48:22)

1. The *Elevation* of King Cyrus (45:1-4)
2. The *Excellence* of the Sovereign God (45:5-13)
3. The *End-time Conversion* of the Gentiles (45:14-25)
4. The *Exceeding Power* of God (46:1-13)

5. The *Expulsion* of the Babylonian Empire (47:1-15)

a. The *Downfall* of her Exalted Position (47:1-5)

¹“Come down and **sit** in the **dust**,
O virgin daughter of Babylon;
Sit on the **ground** *without* a throne,
O daughter of the Chaldeans!
For you shall **no longer** be called *tender* and *delicate*.

²“Take the millstones and **grind meal**.
Remove your **veil**, strip off the **skirt**,
uncover the leg, cross the **rivers**.

³“Your **nakedness** will be **uncovered**,
your **shame** also will be **exposed**;
I will take **vengeance** and will **not** spare a man.”

⁴**Our Redeemer**, the **LORD** of hosts is **His name**, the **Holy One** of Israel.

⁵“Sit silently, and go into **darkness**, **O daughter** of the Chaldeans,
for you will **no longer** be called the queen of kingdoms.

b. The *Declaration* of her Arrogance (47:6-8)

⁶“I was **angry** with **My people**, I profaned **My heritage**
and **gave them** into your hand.

You did **not** show mercy to them,
on the **aged** you made your yoke **very heavy**.

⁷“Yet **you said**, ‘I will be a **queen** forever.’
These things you did **not consider** nor **remember** the **outcome** of them.

⁸“Now, then, hear this, **you sensual one**,
who dwells **securely**, who says in **your heart**,
‘I am, and there is **no one besides me**.’

I will **not** sit as a **widow**, nor know **loss of children**.’

c. The **Devastating Results** of her **Wickedness** (47:9-11)

⁹“But these **two things** will come on you **suddenly** in **one day**:
loss of children and **widowhood**.

They will come on you in **full measure**
in spite of your **many sorceries**,
in spite of the **great power** of your **spells**.

¹⁰“You felt **secure** in your **wickedness** and said,
‘**No one sees me**,’
your **wisdom** and your **knowledge**, they have **deluded you**;
for you have said in **your heart**,
‘I am, and there is **no one besides me**.’

¹¹“But **evil** will come **on you**
which you will **not** know how to **charm away**;
and **disaster** will fall on you for which you **cannot atone**;
and **destruction** about which you do **not know**
will come on you **suddenly**

d. The **Deficiency** of her **Religion** (47:12-15)

¹²“Stand **fast** now in **your spells** and in your **many sorceries**
with which you have **labored** from your **youth**;
perhaps you will be able to **profit**,
perhaps you may cause **trembling**.

¹³“You are **wearied** with your **many counsels**;
let now the **astrologers**, those who **prophesy** by the **stars**,
those who **predict** by the **new moons**,
stand up and **save you** from what will **come upon you**.

¹⁴“Behold, they have become like **stubble**, **fire** burns them;
they **cannot deliver** themselves from the **power** of the **flame**;
there will be **no coal to warm** by *nor* a **fire to sit before!**

¹⁵“So have **those** become to you with whom you have **labored**,
who have **trafficked** with you from your **youth**;
each has **wandered** in **his own way**; there is **none to save you**.

Personal Application

So *What* led to the **Downfall** of **Babylon**, “the Queen of the **Kingdoms**?”

1. Her *Excessive Abuse* of God’s People (Israel)

⁶“I was **angry** with **My people**, I **profaned My heritage** and **gave them** into **your hand**.

You **did not** show mercy to them,
on the **aged** you made **your yoke very heavy**.

⁷“Yet you said, ‘I will be a queen forever.’
These things you did **not consider** nor **remember** the **outcome** of them. (47:6-7)

2. Her *Extreme Arrogance* and Self Exaltation

⁸“Now, then, hear this, **you (Babylon) sensual one**,
who dwells **securely**, who says in **your heart**,
‘I am, and there is **no one besides me**.’

I will **not** sit as a widow, nor know loss of children..’

¹⁰“**You** felt **secure** in your wickedness and said,
‘**No one** sees me,’
your **wisdom** and your **knowledge**, they have **deluded you**;
for you have said in your **heart**,
‘I am, and there is **no one besides me**.’

¹¹“But **evil** will **come on you**
which you will **not know** how to **charm away**;
and disaster will fall on **you** for which **you cannot atone**;
and **destruction** about which you do **not know**
will come **on you suddenly**. (47:10-11)

3. Her *Embrace* of Sorceries and Occultism – **False Religion**

⁹“But these **two things** will come on you (**Babylon**) suddenly in one day:
loss of children and **widowhood**.

They will come on you in **full measure**
in spite of your many **sorceries**,
in spite of the **great power** of your **spells**.

¹⁰“**You** felt **secure** in your wickedness and said, ‘**No one** sees me,’
your **wisdom** and your **knowledge**, they have **deluded you**;

¹³ “You are *wearied* with your **many counsels**;
let now the **astrologers**, those who **prophesy** by the **stars**,
those who **predict** by the **new moons**,
stand up and **save you** from what will **come upon you**.

¹⁴ “Behold, they have become like **stubble**, **fire burns them**;
they **cannot deliver** themselves from the **power** of the **flame**;
(47:9-10, 13-14)

Another New Testament Connection Isaiah’s depiction of the Destruction of *Babylon* is similar to the Destruction of *Babylon* described in the book of Revelation Chapter 18

18 After these things I saw another **angel** coming down from heaven,
having **great authority**, and the earth was *illuminated* with his **glory**.

And he cried out with a **mighty voice**, saying,
“**Fallen, fallen** is **Babylon the great!**
She has become a dwelling place of **demons** and a **prison** of every
unclean spirit, and a **prison** of every **unclean** and **hateful bird**...

...the **kings** of the **earth** have committed *acts of immorality* with her,
and the **merchants** of the **earth** have become **rich**
by the **wealth** of her **sensuality**.”

I heard another **voice** from **heaven**, saying, “**Come out of her, my people**,
so that you will not participate in **her sins** and receive of **her plagues**;
for **her sins** have **piled up** as high as **heaven**,
and **God** has *remembered* her **iniquities**...

To the **degree** that she **glorified herself** and **lived sensuously**,
to the same **degree** give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart,
‘**I SIT AS A QUEEN AND I AM NOT A WIDOW**, and will **never see mourning**.’

For this reason in **one day** her **plagues** will come, **pestilence** and **mourning**
and **famine**, and she will be **burned up** with **fire**;
for the **Lord God** who **judges her** is **strong**.

“And the **kings** of the **earth**, who committed *acts of immorality*
and lived *sensuously* with her, will **weep** and **lament** over her
when they see the smoke of her **burning**, standing at a distance
because of the **fear** of her **torment**, saying,

‘**Woe, woe**, the **great city, Babylon**, the **strong city!**
For in **one hour** your **judgment has come**...’
(Revelation 18:1-2, 3a, 4-5, 7-10)