

Woe To Them That Go Down To Egypt For Help

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #11
Isaiah 31 – November 2, 2016 – Wednesday

I. BACK TO EGYPT, 1

- A. Deuteronomy 17:16 *But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way.*
- B. They do not seek the Lord (1) –
 - 1. 1 Chronicles 16:11 *Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.*
 - 2. Psalms 105:4 *Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.*
 - 3. Acts 17:27 *That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:*
- C. They should have left Egypt for good, but they turned back to them for help after God's wonderful and miraculous deliverance from them.
- D. Egypt is a type of the world, and the application here is that we are not to turn back to the world after we have been delivered from it by God through his grace and faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior.
- E. Paul said in Galatians 4:9 *But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?*
- F. Why go back to Egypt? Why go back to the world

II. GOD IS ALSO WISE, 2

- A. Israel thought that Egypt was wise in helping Israel and giving them chariots and horses and weapons of war.
- B. Israel were trusting in their own strength.
- C. But Isaiah says that God is also wise (2), and he is wiser than the Egyptians. He is the one, remember, who with great power and with a high hand delivered the children of Israel out of Egypt itself.
- D. God is wise. 1 Corinthians 1:21 *For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*
- E. 1 Corinthians 2:7 *But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:*
- F. God's wisdom includes, not only deliverance but also a punishment of evildoers.
 - 1. The evildoers in verse 2 are the Jews who send back to Egypt for help.
 - 2. God is very true to his word, and he will not call back his word, or change his word.
 - 3. In wisdom God saved us, and in wisdom he chastises us. – Revelation 3:19 *As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.*

III. EGYPTIANS ARE MEN, 3

- A. Any help that we seek from the world is like the help Israel was seeking from Egypt.
- B. If we seek spiritual comfort from the world, it is Egypt
- C. If we seek truth from the world, it is Egypt.
- D. If we honor, worship, or reverence things in the world, it is Egypt.
- E. Once Israel was out of Egypt, they were never to look back to Egypt.

- F. Once we are saved out of the world, we are not to look back to the world – John 15:19 *If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.*
- G. Men and men, and God is God. We must always remember that.
- H. Notice the prince of Tyre in Ezekiel 28:2 *Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou [art] a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:*
- I. The Egyptian horses are flesh, and the men are flesh and not spirit.
- J. Both the helper and the helped (holpen) will fall down in judgment.

IV. THE FIGHT IS GOD’S FIGHT, 4-5

- A. He Will Fight As Lions
 - 1. God will fight the Assyrians himself, not with Egypt’s help, like a lion and her young against its prey when the shepherds come to kill the lions.
 - 2. They are not afraid, and God will not be afraid to come against the giant, Assyria.
 - 3. God will fight for Mount Zion, his people.
- B. He Will Fight As The Birds
 - 1. Once I saw a line of birds about 15 to 20 feet wide flying south for the winter. As I watched them flying, they kept coming and coming and coming for about 15 minutes without stop. That is the way the Lord will come against Assyria.
 - 2. I have seen geese rise up from the water in large groups, which is an amazing sight. They fly in a beautiful pattern and an awesome structure of work. That is how God will come against Assyria.
 - 3. Verse 5 says God will *defend* and *preserve* Jerusalem.

V. TURNING TO THE LORD, 6-7

- A. Israel has “deeply revolted” against their God, the God of heaven, the Creator of heaven and earth, 6
- B. “In that day,” the day when God gives victory for Israel, every man will cast his idols of silver and gold made by his own hand for the purpose of sin, 7
- C. When we turn to the Lord, we must turn from our idols – Ezekiel 14:6 *Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations.*
- D. 1 Thessalonians 1:9 *For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;*
- E. 1 John 5:21 *Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.*

VI. THE FINAL VICTORY, 8-9

- A. These verses tell us that the armies will turn and run away from Israel, not from Israel’s swords or their generals or mighty (mean) men, but from the hand of the angel of God, the sword of God himself.
- B. Sennacherib, king of Assyria, ran for fear and dwelt in Nineveh – Isaiah 37:35-37 *For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David’s sake. 36 Then the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all*

dead corpses. 37 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

- C. So, do we, or do we not, believe that God will fight our battles for us.
- D. Nehemiah 4:20 *In what place therefore ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us.*

VII. CONCLUSION

- A. We cannot depend upon the world for our wisdom – 1 Cor. 2:1-5 *And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*
- B. Job said in Job 6:11 *What is my strength, that I should hope? and what is mine end, that I should prolong my life?*
- C. Psalms 28:7 *The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.*
- D. So let it be with us, that God is our strength, and we are not to depend upon ourselves but upon God himself.