

God's Judgment Upon Judah

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #2 – Chapter Three

August 24, 2016 – Wednesday

- I. WHAT GOD WILL TAKE AWAY FROM JUDAH, 3:1-3
 - A. PROVISION – The Stay And Staff, 1
 1. The *stay* and *staff* is the bread and water that is needed daily for a living.
 2. The word *stay* is masculine, and the word *staff* is feminine. This seems by some to mean “all sustenance of life.” So, God took away all sustenance of life, all and every means of making a living in Judah.
 - B. PROTECTION – The Mighty Man, Men of War, 2
 1. Mighty men are usually considered men of war, but there are also mighty men who lead as captains, generals, etc. Also, men in leadership within a city can be considered mighty men.
 2. It seems through a quick look at this phrase in Scripture that all mentions in the Bible of “mighty men” has to do with “mighty men of valor, mighty men of war, and men with shields, swords, and chariots.
 3. God will take away all of these mighty men.
 - C. PROPHECY – The Judge And The Prophet, 2
 1. The judges who administered justice to the people were all taken away, and the prophets were all taken captive. There were prophets, but they were not living among the inhabitants of Judah but rather in Babylon.
 - D. PRUDENCE – The Prudent And The Ancient, 2
 1. The prudent are men of wisdom, and wisdom comes with age. Youth many times are arrogant and wild, but with age they seem to mellow out, and wisdom seems to come as age creeps along.
 2. The words *prudent* and *ancient* have by some been seen to be a reference to a king. At this time Judah did not have a king, or at least they were losing their king to become servants of Babylon.
 3. God will take away their king.
 - E. PATRIOTISM – The Captain of Fifty, 3
 1. This is sometimes called a semi-centurion and is mentioned in 2 Kings 1:9
 2. These were for military organization, but God will remove them. There will be no need for a military during the 70 years of captivity.
 - F. PROSPERITY – The Honorable Man, 3
 1. These are men born of the wealthy and well-to-do. Men will be born of captivity, not of luxury.
 - G. PHILOSOPHY – The Counselor, 3
 1. This could be considered a man who is wise in calculations, in perhaps weather predictions, etc.
 2. He may be able to give advice on child birth and other pertinent things in life.
 3. Some say this could be a soothsayer or enchanter.
 - H. PROFESSIONALISM – The Cunning Artificer, 3
 1. This would be a man who was adept in working with metal, silver, gold, etc., a mechanic.

2. All these building businesses would be closed up due to the captivity.
- I. PROFESSOR – The Eloquent Orator, 3
 1. This would be an educated man, one we might call a scholar or an intellect.
 2. He could be an efficient lawyer, or a philosopher, and even the prophets could be numbered among these, since they knew the Scriptures.
 3. Some even refer these to charmers and enchanters.
 4. These will all be done away.
- J. Notice 2 Kings 24:14 *And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valour, even ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths: none remained, save the poorest sort of the people of the land.*

II. WHAT WILL GOD GIVE JUDAH INSTEAD, 3:4-7

- A. He Will Give Them Children, 4
 1. These could be children in age, which does happen at times. Some of the kings of Judah were very young when they began to reign.
 2. But I think these are probably men who are children in their thinking and in their ways, men who do not know wisdom and who have not given themselves over to good thinking and weighing of ideas pro and con to be able to give good judgment or justice.
 3. I am sure the *babes* in verse four are not real babes. They, I think, would be babies in their minds and in their actions, not knowing how to rule a nation.
- B. He Will Give Them Oppression, 5
 1. The oppression will come as a result of having children as their princes and prophets.
 2. There will be anarchy, no law to regulate society. Morals are decided by each individual; there is no standard of right and wrong.
 3. The children in society will speak evil of the ancients, or the elders. They will disrespect their parents and community officials.
 4. However, the Jewish law says in Leviticus 19:32 *Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD.*
 5. In other words, they had forgotten that God was their LORD.
- C. No Man Wanted To Be The Ruler Of The People, 6-7
 1. The people look for a proper ruler, but no one wants to be a ruler because of all the anarchy that is going on.

III. JERUSALEM IS RUINED, 3:8-9

- A. Judah Is Fallen
 1. Here we should read Isaiah 59:1-15 to see the devastation that is brought upon Judah because of their sin against a holy God.
 2. Is it any wonder that even our own country is in bad shape, since we have committed many, if not all, of these same sins.
 3. So, then, we should pray for our country. But, even more important, we should seek the Lord's face in our faithfulness to him. We should shun evil and live a positive, Christian life in the world to show that we are a separated people.
 4. Matthew 5:16 *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*
 5. But a *remnant* is left – Isaiah 1:9; 10:20
 6. “Remnant” mentioned 15 times in Isaiah.