

God's Indignation, His Sword, and His Word

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #12
Isaiah 34 – November 9, 2016 – Wednesday

- I. THE INDIGNATION OF THE LORD, 34:1-4
 - A. God's Love And Wrath
 1. The Bible tells us that God is the God of love and that he is love, but we must remember that God is also a God of wrath.
 2. The Bible warns us many times of his wrath, and once day this wrath will come upon the entire world.
 - B. God's Indignation, 2-3
 1. God calls all the nations of the world to a hearing concerning his concern for the sinful state of the world, 1
 2. This indignation (wrath, anger) is "upon all nations," 2
 3. His fury (vs 2) is his "hot displeasure," his rage and his fever, as this word is also means.
 4. Verse 2 says that God has destroyed the nations and has delivered them to the slaughter, 3. This is written in past tense, so it is as though God has already done this, when it is actually *proleptic* ["the representation of something in the future as if it already existed or had occurred; prochronism "].
 5. Then the tense changes to future tense in verse three. He mentions here carcasses and blood.
 - a. Revelation 14:20 *And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.*
 - C. Dissolution Of The Heavens, 4
 1. "The host of heaven shall be dissolved."
 2. Isaiah reminded us of this in
 - a. Isaiah 13:10 *For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.*
 3. The heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll:
 - a. Revelation 6:14 *And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*
 4. All of these things will happen during the Great Tribulation Period.
- II. THE SWORD OF THE LORD, 34:5-15
 - A. These verses (5-15) record the wrath of God's being poured out upon the earth.
 - B. This was true to the first readers of the book of Isaiah, and it is also true to those of us reading it today.
 - C. In Isaiah's time it was a prediction of the wrath of God against Israel's enemies and their returning to their land, but to us it is a prediction of God's wrath upon the entire world in the Great Tribulation Period.
 - D. Sword Bathed In Heaven, 5
 1. This means that God's sword is not the sword of man but his own sword, and this battle will be fought in heaven by the strength and wisdom of God.
 2. It will come down on Idumea, which is the name for the Edomites, who were a constant

- enemy of Israel just as the enemies of God's people are today.
3. They will never stop harassing God's people.
 4. This battle will be upon the people of "my curse" to judgment.
- E. Sword Filled With Blood, 6-7
1. This means that the measure of God's wrath that will be used in this great battle will be a full battle with no withdrawal until God's wrath has been completely satisfied.
 2. "It is made fat with fatness," refers to the supper of our Great God who will allow the animals to come and gorge themselves with the flesh of those who died in the battle and with their blood. Bozrah and Idumea are given for the enemies of God.
 3. This will be a great sacrifice to the Lord in satisfaction of his wrath and his vengeance.
 4. The unicorns (probably a rhinoceros) (7), bullocks, bulls, etc., will "come down," or fall down in death, producing more and more blood making a great slaughter for God's sacrifice.
- F. The Sword of Vengeance, 8-11
1. Revelation 18:20 *Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.*
 2. God's vengeance will affect the streams, and the land shall become burning pitch, 9.
 - a. Revelation 17:16 *And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.*
 3. The fire will never be quenched (10)
 - a. Revelation 19:3 *And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.*
 4. There will be left, then, nothing but emptiness. No civil life will be left, only life for those creatures which creep in the night and want to dwell in lonely places.
 5. One writer calls it the state of "tohu" and "bohu" which are the Hebrew words used in Genesis to refer to the empty and confused condition of the world just after God created the heavens and the earth, and the earth was without form and void.
- G. The Sword of the Lord Destroys Kingdoms, 12-15
1. If someone were to call for nobles, there would be none, and there would be no kingdom for a prince or any other leader; it is a waste land, described in 13-15.

III. THE BOOK OF THE LORD, 34:16-17

- A. Seek The Book To Verify, 16
1. If Israel were to read God's book, they would know that these prophecies are true.
 2. This could be the law of Moses, or the book of Genesis where Noah gathered the animals into the ark, as one commentator suggested. All the needed animals came into the ark by God's miraculous gathering.
 3. Notice the last part of verse 16: "and his spirit it hath gathered them."
 4. God has gathered the people together to the great battle of God so that God can fight against them and have a great victory by his own sword.
- B. Believe The Book To Glorify, 17
1. This wrath of God that will be poured out upon the enemies of God will not stop but will be given to the wicked as an inheritance forever. Revelation 14:11 *And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.*

2. The wicked will possess their land (hell) forever from generation to generation, and they shall never be taken from it or removed.
3. God has now satisfied his wrath. What is next to see?
4. Next time we shall see what comes after the wrath of God.
5. For now, we must remember that his wrath is prophesied in the book, and it will come.
6. But then greater things are in store.