

Holy Trinity Bible Study - Isaiah Lesson #10

Study Guide

Primary Sources:

Webb - The Message of Isaiah, Barry G. Webb

Motyer – The Prophecy of ISAIAH, J. Alec Motyer

Isaiah 10:5-34

Judgment on Arrogant Assyria

Voice of God POV of Assyria

⁵Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger;
the staff in their hands is my fury!

⁶Against a godless nation I send him,
and against the people of my wrath I command him,
to take spoil and seize plunder,
and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

⁷But he does not so intend,
and his heart does not so think;
but it is in his heart to destroy,
and to cut off nations not a few;

⁸for he says:

Transition #1 – King of Assyria POV of Assyria

“Are not my commanders all kings?

⁹Is not Calno like Carchemish?

Is not Hamath like Arpad?

Is not Samaria like Damascus?

¹⁰As my hand has reached to the kingdoms of the idols,
whose carved images were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria,

¹¹shall I not do to Jerusalem and her idols
as I have done to Samaria and her images?”

Transition #2 – Prophecy of God to Isaiah on destruction of Assyria

¹²When the Lord has finished all his work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, he will
punish the speech of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and the boastful look in
his eyes.

Transition #3 – King of Assyria POV of Assyria successes

¹³For he says:

“By the strength of my hand I have done it,
and by my wisdom, for I have understanding;
I remove the boundaries of peoples,
and plunder their treasures;
like a bull I bring down those who sit on thrones.

¹⁴My hand has found like a nest
the wealth of the peoples;
and as one gathers eggs that have been forsaken,
so I have gathered all the earth;
and there was none that moved a wing
or opened the mouth or chirped.”

Transition #4 – God POV of Assyria arrogance

¹⁵Shall the axe boast over him who hews with it,
or the saw magnify itself against him who wields it?
As if a rod should wield him who lifts it,
or as if a staff should lift him who is not wood!

¹⁶Therefore the Lord God of hosts
will send wasting sickness among his stout warriors,
and under his glory a burning will be kindled,
like the burning of fire.

¹⁷The light of Israel will become a fire,
and his Holy One a flame,
and it will burn and devour
his thorns and briars in one day.

¹⁸The glory of his forest and of his fruitful land
the Lord will destroy, both soul and body,
and it will be as when a sick man wastes away.

¹⁹The remnant of the trees of his forest will be so few
that a child can write them down.

The Remnant of Israel Will Return

²⁰In that day the remnant of Israel and the survivors of the house of Jacob will no more lean on him who struck them, but will lean on the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. ²¹A remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God.²²For though your people Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will return. Destruction is decreed, overflowing with righteousness. ²³For the Lord God of hosts will make a full end, as decreed, in the midst of all the earth.

²⁴Therefore thus says the Lord God of hosts: “O my people, who dwell in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrians when they strike with the rod and lift up their staff against you as the Egyptians did. ²⁵For in a very little while my fury will come to an end, and my anger will be directed to their destruction. ²⁶And the Lord of hosts will wield against them a whip, as when he struck Midian at the rock of Oreb. And his staff will be over the sea, and he will lift it as he did in Egypt. ²⁷And in that day his burden will depart from your shoulder, and his yoke from your neck; and the yoke will be broken because of the fat.”

Transition #5 – Interpretation of Prophecy by Isaiah of threat to Jerusalem by Assyria

²⁸He has come to Aiath;
he has passed through Migron;
at Michmash he stores his baggage;
²⁹they have crossed over the pass;
at Geba they lodge for the night;
Ramah trembles;
Gibeah of Saul has fled.
³⁰Cry aloud, O daughter of Gallim!
Give attention, O Laishah!
O poor Anathoth!
³¹Madmenah is in flight;
the inhabitants of Gebim flee for safety.
³²This very day he will halt at Nob;
he will shake his fist
at the mount of the daughter of Zion,
the hill of Jerusalem.

Transition #6 – Prophecy of God to Isaiah on destruction of Assyria and preservation of Judah

³³ Behold, the Lord God of hosts
will lop the boughs with terrifying power;

the great in height will be hewn down,
and the lofty will be brought low.

³⁴ He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an axe,
and Lebanon will fall by the Majestic One.

Reading: The Message of Isaiah pages 71-73

Questions to Consider

- 1. What Stands out about verse 12?**
- 2. Is it surprising is that the LORD should have chosen to use such a proud, pagan nation at all, especially against his own people?**
- 3. Why from remnant to remnant? (19-20)**
- 4. Why are verses 20-27 the central pivot on which verses 5-34 as a whole turn?**
- 5. What is the impact on the remnant? (20-24)**
- 6. Who is Isaiah referring to as the remnant in verse 20?**
- 7. Who is the message in verse 24 directed at?**
- 8. What is the question put before them?**
- 9. What conclusion can we take from this section?**
- 10. What is the final transition that takes place between verse 32 and 33?**