

“Fallen Wilderness” ***Isaiah 21***

Desert by the Sea V. 1-10

“Wilderness of the sea” – This was most likely a prophetic play on words referring to Merodach-Baladan’s homeland in southern Mesopotamia, “the Sealand”. Trust in the King of Babylon (sea) will be as empty as the wilderness. ***2 Kings 20:12-21***

Whirlwinds V.1-2 – Like the whirlwinds in the desert judgment on Babylon will be sure and a product of its character. Babylon rose to power through betrayal of alliances especially with Elam and Media. They will turn on Babylon as well. Betrayal breeds betrayal. ***Proverbs 18:3***

Hope turns to horror V. 3-4 – The anguish and horror is twofold; first the anguish of the hoped for help from Babylon is empty, second the anguish and horror of Babylon wishing for the battle to end and the relief of night which just brings destruction.

The banquet V.5 – The Babylonians eat, drink and party not preparing for battle until it is too late. ***Daniel 5***

Watchmen V.6-9 – Watch for the hand of God and fulfillment of the prophecies. Watch diligently and glorify God in it. ***Ezekiel 33:1-6***

Judah is grain V.10 – Judah is the grain crushed on the floor and scattered in the wind. God alone is their salvation not Babylon.

Night in Dumah V. 11-12

Dumah was a desert oasis on the trade route east-west from Babylon to Seir, Edom and north-south from Palmyra, Assyria to the Red Sea. Dumah was under the oppressive “night” of the Assyrians waiting for the “dawn”, the fall of the Assyrians. Their fall was swiftly followed by the “night” of the Babylonians. Seir in Edom heard Isaiah’s words and set watch toward Dumah. ***Amos 5:8-9***

Thickets in Arabia V. 13-17

The Cities – Dedan, ninety miles south of Tema on the road to the Red Sea. Tema, two hundred miles south of Dumah was the last capital of the Babylonians (Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar). Both are in the region of Kedar known for nomads, herders of goats, aggressive warriors that dwelt in black goat hair tents.

War, destruction and fugitives fleeing their homes will come to Arabia also for God has spoken. Trust God! ***Psalms 56***

Application

Discussion Questions

What emptiness have you experienced in hoping for the wrong things?

What is the end result unmet hope in the wrong things?

In what areas in your life can you watch for God?

Homework

Read *Isaiah Ch. 22*

Answer the following questions:

1. What does God's Word say? List the facts.
2. What does God's Word mean? Learn the lessons.
3. What does God's Word mean to me? Listen to His voice.
4. How will I respond to God's Word today? Live it out.

Diligently watch this week for the provision and intervention of God in your life.