

“WOE TO THOSE WHO GO TO EGYPT FOR HELP”

Isaiah 30-32

Introduction

- 1) Trusting in man’s wisdom and strength is a foolish thing (Psa. 118:5-9; 146:3-6; 40:3-4; Jer. 17:5-6; Prov. 3:5-6)
- 2) Our trust should always be placed in God (Psa. 9:10; Prov. 16:20; 29:25; Jer. 17:7-8)
- 3) Unfortunately, Judah had looked to Egypt for help against Assyria (Isa. 36:4-6)

I) Vain Confidence in Egypt (30:1-17; 31:1-3)

- A) Woe to rebellious Israel who had devised plans, but had not consulted God (30:1; 31:1)
 - 1) Added sin to sin [rebellion against God + trusting in men]
 - 2) Walked down to Egypt trusting in its help and strength – will be ashamed (30:2-3)
 - 3) Egyptians will be of no benefit; will help in vain and to no purpose (30:4-7 – sat idle)
 - 4) Trusting in men will cause all to perish under God’s judgment (31:2-3)
- B) Israel – a rebellious people, lying children who will not hear God’s law (30:8-9)
 - 1) Seers and prophets commanded to not speak truth but false deceits that people wanted to hear; the right way was to them the “wrong way” and they refused to hear (30:10-11)
 - 2) Because of their rejection of God’s word, they would be broken like a potter’s vessel into very small pieces (30:12-14)
 - 3) They would flee in fear from the enemy who will swiftly pursue them (30:15-17)

II) Judgment on Assyria (30:27-33; 31:4-9)

- A) Name of the Lord comes burning with anger and indignation (30:27-28)
 - 1) Comes to fight and defend Mount Zion like a roaring lion and flying birds (31:4-5)
 - 2) People will return to God and throw away their idols (31:6-7)
- B) Rejoicing in God as Assyria is beaten down [shattered] and struck with a rod (30:29-32)
 - 1) Assyria shall fall by a sword “not of man” (31:8-9; angel of the Lord; cf. 37:33-36)
 - 2) Funeral pyre of Assyria prepared and kindled by the breath of the Lord (30:33)

III) The Restoration of Israel and the Righteous King (30:18-26; 32:1-20)

- A) The Lord will wait and grant mercy on those who will wait for Him (30:18)
 - 1) Even though there is adversity and affliction, instruction will be provided for the faithful (30:19-21); idols and idolatry will be cast away (30:22; cf. 27:9)
 - 2) Divine blessings of abundance and bright light “in the day that the Lord binds up the bruise of His people, and heals the stroke of their wound” (30:23-26)
- B) A king will reign in righteousness, and princes with justice (32:1)
 - 1) A place of safety and refuge will be found in this righteous leadership (32:2)
 - 2) People will be taught to listen to and understand right knowledge (32:3-4)
 - 3) Evil and righteousness will be clearly identified (32:5-8)
- C) Complacent women warned about judgment to come (32:9-15)
 - 1) Spirit will be poured out from on high – spiritual blessings (v. 15; cf. 61:1; Lk. 4:16-21)
- D) Peace, quietness, and assurance will be restored in the righteous reign of God (32:16-20)
- E) Fulfillment of these prophecies is seen first in the faithful remnant of physical Israel, then finally in the spiritual remnant of the Messiah, the righteous King

Conclusion

We must be careful not to trust in men above God. God’s ways will always be found perfect, while man’s ways end in destruction. Always put your trust and faith in God!!