

“THE HIGHWAY OF HOLINESS”

Isaiah 33-35

Introduction

- 1) Our choice of a pathway in life is really rather simple – the *right way* or the *wrong way*
- 2) We must be careful about following our own instincts (Prov. 14:12; Jer. 10:23)
- 3) Only God can direct our path in the right way (Prov. 3:5-6; Jer. 6:16)
 - a) His “Highway of Holiness” should be our highway of life!

I) The Lord Will Deliver His People (33:1-24)

- A) Woe to Assyria, the plunderer, who will be plundered and destroyed (v. 1)
- B) God will rise up to be His people’s strength and salvation (vv. 2-6)
 - 1) Lord will be exalted and fill Zion with justice and righteousness
 - 2) Stability comes with wisdom and knowledge (Prov. 1:7; 9:10; Psa. 111:10)
- C) God’s mighty judgment results in devastation and mourning on the earth (vv. 7-13)
 - 1) Sinners and hypocrites in Zion are made afraid of God’s judgment (v. 14)
- D) Those who walk righteously, speak uprightly, and avoid evil will be blessed (vv. 15-16)
 - 1) Will see the King in His beauty and see terror no more (vv. 17-19; cf. Psa. 47)
 - 2) Zion will be a permanent place of protection and forgiveness (vv. 20-24)
 - a) Lord is Judge, Lawgiver, King, and Savior for the righteous (v. 22)

II) God’s Judgment on the Wicked (34:1-17)

- A) All nations of men will fall under the indignation of God’s wrath (vv. 1-4; cf. Rom. 1:18f)
- B) Edom singled out as an example of a nation under God’s wrath (vv. 5-7)
 - 1) Edom often stood against Israel (Obadiah, Amos 1:11-12; Jer. 49:7-22; Mal. 1:1-5)
 - 2) Judgment on Edom pictured as a sacrifice – penalty for sin (cf. Rom. 6:23)
- C) Day of Lord’s vengeance on wicked nations pictured as reducing them to perpetual burning wastelands where only wild animals dwell (vv. 8-15)
 - 1) God’s purpose and word will not fail and others will read of its truthfulness (vv. 16-17)

III) The Glory of Zion and the Highway of Holiness (35:1-10)

- A) Gladness and life will characterize the joyful land of the righteous (vv. 1-2; cp. 33:9)
- B) The weak will be strengthened and the fearful given hope of salvation (vv. 3-4; Heb. 12:12)
- C) Blessings will come to the infirmed and to the wasteland (vv. 5-7)
- D) A way called the “Highway of Holiness” will be there (v. 8)
 - 1) The unclean will not travel on it; the way will be plain enough for a fool to see it
 - 2) No danger will be found on this holy highway (v. 9)
- E) The ransomed of the Lord will come to Zion singing with joy and gladness (v. 10)

Conclusion

This “Highway of Holiness” is the way of Christ now (Jn. 14:6). Salvation is found in faith in Christ and obedience to His will. Sanctification in Christ is found in learning and growing in His way (Hebrews 12:11-15). Follow the Lord for eternal hope and salvation today!