

- 14 And wild animals shall meet with hyenas;
the wild goat shall cry to his fellow;
indeed, there the night bird settles
and finds for herself a resting place.
- 15 There the owl nests and lays
and hatches and gathers her young in her
shadow;
indeed, there the hawks are gathered,
each one with her mate.
- 16 Seek and read from the book of the LORD:
Not one of these shall be missing;
none shall be without her mate.
For the mouth of the LORD has commanded,
and his Spirit has gathered them.
- 17 He has cast the lot for them;
his hand has portioned it out to them with the
line;
they shall possess it forever;
from generation to generation they shall dwell
in it.

The Ransomed Shall Return

35 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the
crocus;
2 it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

14 This land is completely empty of human influence.

15 These birds stay away from people, so they are freely living
w/out fear of any human beings.

16 These are written down as proof this is God's plan. This
prophecy comes from the mouth of God. The land will be totally
wild and occupied by all the animals as if man had never been
here.

17 This judgment upon Edom is set to last. The animals are
said to live here forever. The nation of Edom is done.

35 This is about restoration and God's future promise. It
can be seen in every age God works. It is fulfilled when the
Jews return from Babylon, or the Christian church era, or to the
final restoration of all of God's people to the eternal spiritual
kingdom of Christ Jesus. Deliverance is promised to God's people
in every age. He does not forget those who follow His path.

1-2 Shows the opposite of God's judgment in chapter 34. Here
all is restored to His people. Here the desert blooms and there is
joy everywhere. Beauty will come to it the once belonged to
others. Here the defeated people of God are restored. Every-
thing is made new and whole.

The Spiritual Kingdom Revealed

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God
will come with vengeance, (Justice, Retribution)
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

7 the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

8 And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

9 No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

2b) THE will see clearly that God's hand is in this matter.

3-4) THE prophet want everyone to share the good news. There are some who are so overcome with grief they will need help seeing God at work. Even before it happens they should encourage each other to be ready for God to act on their behalf. Here God's vengeance or justice is to benefit them. The two signs of justice must be remembered and use to strengthen those who are suffering. God always has a plan to restore His people.

Here is the great promise of restoration physical & spiritual!

5-6a) In God's Kingdom people are healed. They are forgiven of their sins, and can be physically healed. (Mt. 11:5, Luke 7:22). God will heal all who call on Jesus' name for forgiveness of their sins, and for His Kingdom sake He will be some of physical ailments as signs of His divine presence. (Mk 12:1-2). All will be healed at the final redemption at the resurrection. (Rom 8:23)

6b-7) Here is a picture of restoration of the nation, and later of the glories of the eternal Kingdom. This restoration is a reversal of judgment and is God's reward for His people.

8) Here is a description of the path of righteousness. Some see this as a literal path, but that is not L's arch intentions. Only the righteous shall ascend to heaven to live eternally w/ God.

9) Here the personification of the animals to represent the wicked & ungodly and their exclusion from God's Kingdom.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- 9b they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
- 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Sennacherib Invades Judah 701 BC

most likely a title and not a name

36 In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them. ²And the king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem, with a great army. And he stood by the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Washer's Field. ³And there came out to him Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder.

⁴And the Rabshakeh said to them, "Say to Hezekiah, "Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: On what do you rest this trust of yours? ⁵Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war? In whom do you now trust, that you have rebelled against me? ⁶Behold, you are trusting in Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of any man who leans on it. Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him. ⁷But if you say to me, "We trust in the LORD our God," is it not he whose high places and altars Hezekiah has removed, saying to Judah and to Jerusalem, "You shall worship before this altar"? ⁸Come now, make a wager with my master the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them. ⁹How then can you repulse

9b It is a path exclusively for the Redeemed. These who have been bought by God. This path leads to eternity w/ God.

10 Here all the promises of God are made complete. Lifting the believer to the ultimate position of Glory w/ God. Here is only Joy as the gather at Zion, which is no longer a city on earth but the city of God in the 3rd heaven. Rev. 14.1 Mount Zion where the those who have gathered across time to be w/ God eternally. This is Everlasting Joy of a new kind. Israh lifts the individual from the battles against the wicked to a place of complete victory and eternal joy. This is Rev. 21.4 prophesied by Israh. This is God's Gift & Dream for all who walk the path of righteousness.

36.1-39.8 Except for 38.9-20 this section is basically the same as 2 Kings 18:17-20:19. The four chapters have 2 parts. Chapters 38-39 are chronologically earlier than chapters 36-37. Here Israh bridges the gap between Assyria and Babylonian Kingdoms.

- 1) Exact dating is impossible. The best would be circa 700 B.C. This is also mentioned in 2 Chron. 32.1
- 2) 2 Kings 18:14-16 inserts 3 verses here in the story showing Hezekiah had tried to buy his way out of the battle. The King had broken a treaty with Assyria and paid tribute which caused him to empty the treasury and strip Gold and Silver, even stripping Gold & Silver from the temple treasury, temple doors & post. Hezekiah also moved to protect the city's water supply. Sennacherib sends officials w/ a large army to back them up.
- 3) Representatives for Judah are sent out to this official. (see also 2K 18:18)
- 4) THE RABSHAKEH does not even refer to Hezekiah as King. Bolittling him as not worthy of the title. He challenges King Hezekiah w/ a probing question about who he trusts to protect him.
- 5) Hezekiah is mocked for his choices of who he trusts, and the plans he has made. Does Hezekiah really think his strategy will save him? The envoy bypasses Hezekiah's envoys and speaks down to the King.
- 6) The envoy answers his own question by mocking Egypt's army.
- 7) Hezekiah's religious reforms are mocked as useless. Now he has fewer Gods to help him. Will one God be enough to save them?
- 8) The mocking continues. They will give Hezekiah 2,000 horses if he can produce 2,000 riders. The little Jewish Army is seen as no match for the massive Assyrian Army. Horses were seen as a symbol of power and strength. Hezekiah is mocked as having neither. In Isa 31.1 they looked to Egypt to provide horses for them.