

¹²“Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. ¹³But the LORD of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. ¹⁴And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁵And many shall stumble on it. They shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken.”

¹⁶Bind up the testimony; seal the teaching among my disciples. ¹⁷I will wait for the LORD, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him. ¹⁸Behold, I and the children whom the LORD has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the LORD of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion. ¹⁹And when they say to you, “Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter,” should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn. ²¹They will pass through the land, greatly distressed and hungry. And when they are hungry, they will be enraged and will speak contemptuously against their king and their God, and turn their faces upward. ²²And they will look to the earth, but behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish. And they will be thrust into thick darkness.

Name God for the consequences of their sins

For to Us a Child Is Born

9 But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has

Galilee where Jesus will set up His headquarters for His ministry.

- ⑫ THE people do not determine the message, nor do they determine the heart of the matter. A Spiritual Leader is called to lead the people by following God's Directions. People will believe a lie if it relieves them of Guilt and responsibility
- ⑬ Keep a proper perspective of the matters and who is really in final control. Let God GUIDE YOUR HEART AWAY FROM THE CROWD.

⑭-⑮ God is either your cornerstone or stumbling block. They will fall because of their rejection of God. The results will be their own fault.

⑯-⑰ THE FOLLOWERS OF GOD ARE TO WAIT ON GOD and not lose hope. They must not hope in the King or the nation but focus on God. The lives of the righteous show the presence of God in their lives. Even the prophet's family names remind Him of God's presence. Isaiah = The Lord is Savior | Shear-jashub = A Remnant shall remain | Maher-shalal-haz-bazai = Speedy the spook (or) hasten the prey.

⑱-⑳ THE PEOPLE, EVEN IN DISTRESS, CONTINUE TO SEEK HELP FROM ANYPLACE EXCEPT GOD. THEY SHOW NO FAITH OR TRUST IN GOD. THEY BLAME THE KING AND GOD and fail to recognize their own faithlessness is THE CAUSE. THEY LOOK DOWN TO THE EARTH AND NOT UPWARD TO GOD FOR HELP.

⓫ Here a small light of hope is given. They could never see or understand the significance of this prophecy.

note: This coming hope is future and spiritual. No one living when this was written would live to see this salvation. All is on God's time and not man's. His goal is eternal and always Kingdom focused.

made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the nations.

- 2 The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
- 3 You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
- 4 For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- 5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle
tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
- 6 For to us a child is born, (Isa 7:14 to a virgin)
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his
shoulder,
and his name shall be called
*Wonderful Counselor,^① Mighty God,^②
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.^③
- 7 Of the increase of his government and of
peace
there will be no end,

*God is one and seen here clearly as such.

He will be all God and all human.

① God is depicted as counselor in Micah 4:9

② See also 10:21 & Deut 10:7 & Jer. 32:18 - Direct reference to God.
Pointing clearly to divinity of this special child.

2-7 This messianic prophecy rises above the people and promises something they could not understand or comprehend. Looking back we see all clearly while they could only marvel and hope. This prophecy is both on the physical hope and the spiritual deliverance the coming one would provide.

- ② The image is bold and filled with contrast. It is not only dark it is a deep darkness that a light shines into. Jesus refers to Himself as light. The struggle between light and darkness is clearly good vs. evil and Jesus vs. Satan and his great lie.
- ③ like a great harvest or a victory in battle those who are thus blessed celebrate with joy.
- ④ the reason for joy is their deliverance → as shown by Gideon's victory with God's help at Midian. (Judges 6-7)
- ⑤ weapons will no longer be needed at this future final victory so they will be burned as fuel. Prophetic language must be seen as allegory or representative of God and not in a literal sense.
- ⑥ This coming victory will depend on a future birth. A certain individual who God knows and has ordained at the final victorious King. This eternal government is one of peace and justice.
- Isaiah's vision builds and reveals to coming savior and King. He will deliver from darkness and rule in peace. This is the doctrine of Incarnation and prepares for the understanding of God w/us. The list of names all belong to God alone. Isaiah was speaking for God but there is no way he understood the meaning.

*Everlasting father - refers to God & makes Jesus His son.

② Prince of Peace is more directly referring to spiritual peace as wars will continue till end of time.

③ Reference to growing Kingdom. Growing Kingdom see Mark 4:30-32 where Jesus compares it to a mustard seed growing into a great tree.

on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
 to establish it and to uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time forth and forevermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Judgment on Arrogance and Oppression (9.8 thru 10.4)

8 The Lord has sent a word against Jacob,
 and it will fall on Israel;
 9 and all the people will know,
 Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, = capital of Israel
 who say in pride and in arrogance of heart:
 10 "The bricks have fallen,
 but we will build with dressed stones;
 the sycamores have been cut down,
 but we will put cedars in their place."
 11 But the LORD raises the adversaries of Rezin
 against him,
 and stirs up his enemies.
 12 The Syrians on the east and the Philistines on the west
 devour Israel with open mouth.
 * For all this his anger has not turned away,
 and his hand is stretched out still.

13 The people did not turn to him who struck them,
 nor inquire of the LORD of hosts.
 14 So the LORD cut off from Israel head and tail,
 palm branch and reed in one day—
 15 the elder and honored man is the head,
 and the prophet who teaches lies is the tail;

Judgment for arrogance of the people

Repeated
4 x's in
section

7 Ties Him to David and an eternal Kingdom that last forevermore. God's Zeal or complete commitment to this is emphasized here. This Kingdom is of God and has no human foundation.

Justice and righteousness this Kingdom cannot be corrupted and functions on a higher standard than any earthly Kingdom. Justice is fairness or honesty while righteousness is the way of life for Kingdom citizens.

8-9 It is made clear that God is moving against the N. Kingdom.

10 The people's self-sufficed pride is shown in rejecting the punishment of God. If He destroys, they will build back better.

11-12 God opens the door for Israel's enemies to enter. He is their protection and he allows punishment and destruction. The people's pride is undone when put up against God's judgment.

13 Even in their defeat they refuse to call on God for help

14-15 Proverbial expression showing leadership (head) and the people (tail). Scripture explains scripture. vs 15 explains vs. 14.

15 those who show to be leading them toward God, including the religious leaders (Prophets) are leading them away, and the people follows willingly.

16 for those who guide this people have been leading them astray,
and those who are guided by them are swallowed up.

17 Therefore the Lord does not rejoice over their young men,
and has no compassion on their fatherless and widows;
for everyone is godless and an evildoer,
and every mouth speaks folly.

* For all this his anger has not turned away,
and his hand is stretched out still.

18 For wickedness burns like a fire;
it consumes briars and thorns;
it kindles the thickets of the forest,
and they roll upward in a column of smoke.

19 Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts
the land is scorched,
and the people are like fuel for the fire;
no one spares another.

20 They slice meat on the right, but are still hungry,
and they devour on the left, but are not satisfied;

each devours the flesh of his own arm,
Manasseh devours Ephraim, and Ephraim devours Manasseh;
together they are against Judah.

* For all this his anger has not turned away,
and his hand is stretched out still.

a piling on of the punishment

Judgment for False Teachers
Hypocrisy

Judgment for Wickedness that Consumes

These sins are so many they are reminded of God punishment

16 Blind leading the Blind (Luke 9:39) both will fall in the ditch.

17 It does not matter who you are, without God you are without hope. No one is seen as following or pleasing God.

18 Their wickedness burns like a wildfire out of control. It consumes everything leaving only choking blinding smoke.

19 This is about justice and punishment. Their turning from God has opened the door or directly caused his anger at their sinful lives. In rejecting Him they became a fuel for God's wrath to burn.

20 There is never enough when you are not following God. Only more, more, more. This becomes self-consuming, property takes the place of God till the person sacrifices life and health for more w/out considering the self-destructive cost.

21 Sinful people are also violent people. Turning on each other in a cycle of violence and conquest. Much like cannibalism or the compulsion to eat ones self, sinful people attack their own and in the process destroy themselves.