

"Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

5 "Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

6 Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of
Israel."

The Judgment of Babylon (see also 43.14-21; 47.1-15)

13 The oracle concerning Babylon which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw.

2 On a bare hill raise a signal; (see also 49.22)
cry aloud to them;
wave the hand for them to enter
the gates of the nobles.

3 I myself have commanded my consecrated ones,
and have summoned my mighty men to execute
my anger, *God's will, will be done.*
my proudly exulting ones.

4 The sound of a tumult is on the mountains
as of a great multitude!
The sound of an uproar of kingdoms,
of nations gathering together!
The LORD of hosts is mustering
a host for battle.

4b-6 THE RESPONSE of the believer is always directed toward
God, and in His name. Singing, shouting, thanks, it all boils to the
Joy of Salvation and the newness of Life w/Him.

6 the Holy One of Israel, or the CONSECRATED one
Jones P.56 notes it is the same as Immanuel but with a
glorious expansion of the idea. He read it and pass on w/out
considering the force of ending this psalm and section by
declaring all in God's name.

Isaiah 13.1 through 23.18 is God dealing with THE NATIONS Section 2
THAT HAVE or will war AGAINST His PEOPLE. The punishment
of these is designed to encourage His people He has not forgotten them.
Ten nations are singled out and then a section of World Judgment.

① At the time of the Prophecy Babylon was not a major player on
the world stage. This prophecy shows its rise and demise with
special attention to its King in chapter 14. This oracle is both an
encouragement to God's People and a prophecy of God's coming Judgment.
At the time of the writing Assyria and not Babylon was the
main threat they faced. Jones P57 "They were afraid of the
wrong nation."

2-5. Prophetic language show God gathering His forces for battle.
These forces may be other nations God is directing to do His will.

④ God moves nations according to His will and assembles
armies to do His bidding.

- 5 They come from a distant land,
from the end of the heavens,
the LORD and the weapons of his indignation,
to destroy the whole land.
- 6 Wail, for the day of the LORD is near;
as destruction from the Almighty it will come!
- 7 Therefore all hands will be feeble,
and every human heart will melt.
- 8 They will be dismayed:
pangs and agony will seize them;
they will be in anguish like a woman in labor.
They will look aghast at one another;
their faces will be aflame.
- 9 Behold, the day of the LORD comes,
cruel, with wrath and fierce anger,
to make the land a desolation
and to destroy its sinners from it.
- 10 For the stars of the heavens and their
constellations
will not give their light;
the sun will be dark at its rising,
and the moon will not shed its light.
- 11 I will punish the world for its evil,
and the wicked for their iniquity;
I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant,
and lay low the pompous pride of the ruthless.
- 12 I will make people more rare than fine gold,
and mankind than the gold of Ophir.

5) God's Judgment on Babylon is well planned and will take place. THE VISION OF GOD MUST BE ENLARGED. He is not just their God. He is the God of the whole earth, and the whole earth responds to His call.

6-8) Even before it happens, the thought of coming judgment is overpowering and all consuming. God DOES NOT INTEND FOR THIS TO BE A QUICK END. They will linger in pain and regret.

9) This verse is intended to show that God is the one who HAS unleashed all that is about to happen.

10) Prophetic language is used to show THE FALL OF THE NATION. The leadership is pictured as stars in Heaven (ZODIAC), that are unable to shine. The sun, a symbol of the King, is not able to shine. The moon, a lesser official, is also darkened as the country crumbles. Here the wicked are plunged into the darkness by God's JUDGMENT.

11) THE WICKED WILL FIND THEMSELVES Brought DOWN. THEIR PRIDE & CEREMONIES will be replaced with fear and hiding.

12) Those who survive this judgment will be few. They will FACE THE WRATH OF GOD & HIS eternal justice.

- 13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble,
and the earth will be shaken out of its place,
at the wrath of the LORD of hosts
in the day of his fierce anger.
- 14 And like a hunted gazelle,
or like sheep with none to gather them,
each will turn to his own people,
and each will flee to his own land.
- 15 Whoever is found will be thrust through,
and whoever is caught will fall by the sword.
- 16 Their infants will be dashed in pieces
before their eyes;
their houses will be plundered
and their wives ravished.
- 17 Behold, I am stirring up the Medes against them,
who have no regard for silver
and do not delight in gold.
- 18 Their bows will slaughter the young men;
they will have no mercy on the fruit of the womb;
their eyes will not pity children.
- 19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms,
the splendor and pomp of the Chaldeans,
will be like Sodom and Gomorrah
when God overthrew them.
- 20 It will never be inhabited
or lived in for all generations;
no Arab will pitch his tent there;
no shepherds will make their flocks lie down
there.

(13) the heavens here are of the Prophetic 2nd Heaven. This is in reference to God's dealing with the leaders of Babelon.

(14) THEY WILL FLEE TO ESCAPE God's Judgment. It will be a flight of fear. Nothing planned, their goal to merely survive.

(15) NO ONE WILL BE SPARED.

(16) ALL hope will BE DESTROYED. THEIR CHILDREN WILL DIE BEFORE THEM. ALL THEY HAVE accomplished and built up will BE DESTROYED.

(17) the Medes under Cyrus first attacked in 529 B.C. leading to allowing Jewish Exiles to return to Jerusalem. THE destruction of Babelon was completed by 518 B.C. This prophecy was fulfilled in detail shortly after that.

(19) Sodom and Gomorrah were totally destroyed and stood as a sign of how God executed judgment. Here Babelon the nation and it's capital are said to meet S. & G. same fate.

21 But wild animals will lie down there,
 and their houses will be full of howling creatures;
 there ostriches will dwell,
 and there wild goats will dance.
 22 Hyenas will cry in its towers,
 and jackals in the pleasant palaces;
 its time is close at hand
 and its days will not be prolonged.

The Restoration of Jacob

14 For the LORD will have compassion on Jacob and will again choose Israel, and will set them in their own land, and sojourners will join them and will attach themselves to the house of Jacob. 2 And the peoples will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them in the LORD's land as male and female slaves. They will take captive those who were their captors, and rule over those who oppressed them.

Israel's Remnant Taunts Babylon

3 When the LORD has given you rest from your pain and turmoil and the hard service with which you were made to serve,
 4 you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon:

"How the oppressor has ceased,
 the insolent fury ceased!
 5 The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked,
 the scepter of rulers,
 6 that struck the peoples in wrath
 with unceasing blows,

21-22 It will be reduced to a place where wild animals live, and men are afraid to go. The prophetic promise that God is planning to act swiftly.

1-2 Even as God will punish Babylon He will also restore Jacob & Israel. It is the nation He is restoring. Those who carry His name. Ps. 109:21 it is for His name's sake that he restore, and forgives. Those He punished are gone, now He will show His might and restore those who are called by His name.

3-4 This taunt or song is to be repeated as a prophecy against the King of Babylon. Here this ruler has crossed the line and has been singled out for a particular punishment.

4b-6 God's judgment has come. It is no longer a future event. He has stopped the wicked in their wickedness.