**“Insights into Isaiah”—Chapters 32-33**

***Chapter 32—A Reign of Righteousness***

**Review: THIS CHAPTER IS A BRIGHT NOTE BETWEEN THE FIFTH (God calls His People to stop trusting in Egypt” AND SIXTH (All nations against Israel) WOES, and a ray of “light” in the dark place of God’s people of that day. The person of the King of Kings is introduced here in His Millennial reign. Chapters 1-35 in Isaiah are very similar in style and themes, with chapters 40-66 are different in style and focus. John 12 mentions both sections in chapters 6 and 53 and says that Isaiah wrote these. Four chapters, 36-39, are a historical insert and narrative, rather than poetic, and mimic exactly I Kings 18-21 and 2 Chronicles 32-33. Some authors even suggest that the chapters in 1 Kings could be written by Isaiah. In the previous chapter, God assured that the Assyrians would be judged, and Judah would be delivered. So the actual format of Isaiah will look like this: Chapters 1-35, 36-39 (historical interlude), then Chapters 40-66. But God didn’t want only to remove the threat; He also wanted to bless Judah was a righteous king, so the promise is made: Behold, a king will reign in righteousness. However, it is likely that the prophecy of Isaiah 32-33 was given before the time of the prophecy of Isaiah 30-31. Both look to the time of the Assyrian invasion of Judah, but Isaiah 30-31 are set in the time of Hezekiah, as the invasion nears Jerusalem in 701 B.C. Most commentators believe that the king who will reign in righteousness mentioned here was Hezekiah, and since it says that he will reign, this prophecy may have been given at the beginning of Isaiah’s prophetic career, during the reign of King Ahaz, the predecessor to King Hezekiah. AND…. It is ALSO possible that the prophecy of Isaiah 32-33 was given during the reign of Hezekiah, and this announcement refers to the latter part of his reign. It is also possible that it was given during the time of Hezekiah, and it prophesies the coming of King Josiah, the great-grandson of the present king of Judah, Hezekiah, who reigned during the Assyrian threat. Josiah was a righteous king (2 Kings 22:2). Hezekiah is the King at this time. Sennacherib (which means, “sin multiples its brothers”—sin is their name for “the moon god”) is the King of Assyria at this time. Judah has turned to Egypt as an ally. “Egypt” is often used as a type/model as the world; Pharaoh is often typed as an Anti-Christ.** In chapters 32-35. the same blended meanings of near and far fulfillments are found. The near view is still of Sennacherib's invasion, the far view of the day of the Lord. Isaiah 2:10-22; Revelation 19:11-21 and the kingdom blessing to follow.

1. **Review 2 Kings 19:14-19, 20-37. Read verse 34 about God defending Jerusalem. Why does God “fight for Jerusalem?”** 185,000 troops slaughtered that night Nineveh was the capital of Assyria. **See also Daniel 10.**
   1. **Parallel with 2 Kings 6:15…….Elisha surrounded by Syrian army.**
2. **Who is the king will reign in righteousness?** The Messiah, Jesus. not Hezekiah, who was already on the throne, whereas a *future* time is contemplated. If he be meant at all, it can only be as a type of Messiah the King, to whom alone the language is fully applicable (Hosea 3:5; Zechariah 9:9; see on Isaiah 11:3-5). The kingdom shall be transferred from the world kings, who have exercised their power *against* God, instead of *for* God, to the rightful King of kings (Ezekiel 21:27; Daniel 7:13, Daniel 7:14).
   1. **Is this the Kingdom Age and Jesus? See Hosea 3:5, Zechariah 9:9, Isaiah 11:3-5, Ezekiel 21:27, Daniel 7:13-4.**
3. **Who are the princes in verse 1?** The apostles and the saints.
   1. **See Revelation 1:6.** We are priests and kings.
   2. **Read Matthew 19:28—**twelve apostles sit on thrones.
   3. **Refer to Luke 22:30, I Corinthians 6:2, 2 Timothy 2:12, and Revelation 2:26-27, 3:21.**
   4. **In verse 3, “eyes” refer to what? Review I Corinthians 13:12. “***For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.”* (1 Corinthians 13:12)*.*
4. **Why does the “righteous” king always refer to Jesus?**
   1. **Refer back to Isaiah 26:4, where Christ is the “everlasting king.” Correlate that passage with Isaiah 32’s image of Him.**
   2. **What are the “pictures” that describe the leaders of this kingdom? Hiding place, cover from tempest, rivers of water, and shadow of a rock.**
      * 1. **In verse 2, we see the “shadow of a great rock”—is this Jesus?**
        2. **In verse 3, explain the reference to eyes and ears.** Spiritual understanding will be prevalent.
           1. **Review I Corinthians 13:12, “For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face….”**
        3. **What does “heart” mean in verse 4?**
        4. **Review “the tongue/mouth” reference in verse 4.**
5. **Re-read Isaiah 32:5, “The foolish person will no longer be called generous, nor the miser said to be bountiful.” The KJV, “The vile person shall be no more called liberal, or the churl said to be bountiful.” Equate that statement to today’s world.**
6. **Who is the “fool” and the miser” in verse 5-6? Compare this with today’s leaders.**
   1. **Why does Isaiah use contrasts in this section for emphasis?**
      1. **Does God expose corruption? How about today?**
   2. **Is the language of verse 5-6 pointing to today’s opulent and powerful?**
   3. **Some commentators see a local application to Hezekiah. Support this view. Refer to 2 Kings 18:3, 5-6**. (Hezekiah) It is written of him, *And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father David had done . . . He trusted in the Lord God of Israel, so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any who were before him. For he held fast to the Lord; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the Lord had commanded Moses*
      1. **See also Jeremiah 23:5.** A king will reign in righteousness: Ultimately, Hezekiah is a picture of the King of Kings, Jesus Christ. Jeremiah 23:5 announces this about our Messiah: *“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.* “This seems to have been delivered in the time of Ahaz, and to speak of Hezekiah, and of his righteousness and happy government. But withal, as Hezekiah and his reign was an eminent type of Christ and of his kingdom; so this prophecy looks through Hezekiah unto Christ.”
      2. **Refer to 2 Kings 19:2.** And princes will rule with justice: It wasn’t enough - it is never enough - to have a righteous king. The king must have helpers, princes under him, who will also rule with justice. Hezekiah had such loyal princes, such as Eliakim, Shebna the scribe, the elders of the priests, and Isaiah himself (2 Kings 19:2).
      3. If Hezekiah, the righteous king, points to Jesus, then who are Jesus’ **princes**? His people are His princes! *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light* (1 Peter 2:9). *And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.* (Revelation 5:10). Many of the seemingly unnecessary trials and pains of this life a wonderful purpose in the world beyond: training us to be princes, faithfully ruling with King Jesus
7. **In verse 7, describe the “wickedness” that is mentioned. Review Job 17:11 and Leviticus 18:17**. **Wicked plans**: “Apart from Job 17:11, has a uniformly bad meaning. It occurs nineteen times of sexual misconduct (*e.g.* Leviticus 18:17).
8. **Verse 9 begins a section of contrasts. Discuss what Isaiah says to the “women” of Judah.** This is contentment to a fault.
   1. **Is this section warning “women” of the coming tribulation and against complacency?**
   2. **What is complacency? Can it be an asset?**
   3. **What is “sackcloth” in verse 11?**
   4. **What is “thorns and briars in verse 13?”**
   5. **Compare the complacency over 9-13 with the desolation of 14.**
   6. **Review I Corinthians 14:43…..**God is a God of order.
9. **ISAIH 32:15 BEGINS THE THIRD DIVISION OF THIS CHAPTER—THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT TO BE POURED OUT IN THE LAST DAYS! What happens in verse 15? Note the “hope” that is evident in this change.** The spirit will be poured out in the Millennium when Christ reigns. **See Jeremiah 31: 31-35.**
   1. **Is this Kingdom period a time of testing? See Joel 2:28-29, and also Acts 2:15-21, where Paul refers to Joel 2.** Peter explained that what happened at Pentecost is similar to what will happen in the millennial reign of Christ, when the Holy Spirit indwells.
   2. **Has verse 17 ever been fulfilled?** There is not righteousness yet, so therefore there is no peace on the earth.
10. **Verses 16-19 picture the Millennial Kingdom. Re-state and review.**
11. **“The cities of the nations will fall”—those who oppose Israel, are in view in verse 19. Examine Revelation 16: 17-21.**
12. **Verse 17, what is the fruit? Describe the “order” that reigns.**
13. **Verse 20 is called “a beatitude of Isaiah.” Paraphrase in your own words.**
    1. **See also Matthew 5:3-12. Review.**
14. **The “Kingdom Passage,” in verses 16-20, highlights the blessings brought by the Spirit. Enumerate these, and use them to summarize Chapter 32.**
15. **The themes of Chapter 32 are: the coming King, the coming Tribulation, and the coming Spirit. Re-cap and encapsulate in your own words.**

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***Chapter 33—The Final Woe (on all who spoil God’s people and land)***

**This chapter pronounces a judgment upon those who seek to destroy God’s people and lay waste His land. It refers to the Assyrians in the immediate future, but extends to the final enemy of the last days. The chapter is geocentric; the land is the thing of primary importance. Isaiah refocuses again on the distress of Jerusalem and its deliverance. The theme here is to keep your promises. Hezekiah had made a covenant with Assyria for peace, verse 8. THIS IS THE FINAL WOE OF ISAIAH. It is again referring to Isaiah. There will be little “clumps” of truths.**

1. **Who is God referring to in verse 1?** Assyria
   1. **How does Galatians 6:7 apply here?** “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”
   2. **Although this verse refers to Sennacherib, can it also look forward to the Anti-Christ? Defend your answer.** See Isaiah 36-37.
2. **Re-state the small prayer in verse 2.** This is the prayer of the godly remnant then and in the future. Prayers of the righteous remnant.
   1. **Noting that Christ is the judge, the lawgiver, and the King, examine the parallel to today’s world.**
3. **Describe the wrath of God in verses 3-4.**
   1. **Who was fleeing in verses 3? Read 2 Chronicles 32:21**. Sennacherib took flight suddenly
4. **Read 2 Kings 18:13**…Hezekiah had to pay a tribute/tax to keep Sennacherib to keep the peace with Assyria. Hezekiah bought peace.
   1. Jesus spoke of this same principle in Matthew 7:1-2: *Judge not, that you not be judged. For with what judgment you judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the same measure you use, it will be measured back to you.* God has every right to deal with us as we have dealt with others.
5. **Verses 5-6 seem to offer hope to all. Why is this “nugget” inserted at this point/**
   1. **What is God’s treasure? Verse 6b….look up verse, “the fear of the Lord**
   2. **Where else do we see “the fear of the Lord’ emphasized? See Proverbs 1:7, 8:13, 16:6, Matthew 10:28, Ecclesiastes 12:13, Job 28:28, and. Psalms 33:8.**
6. **Verses 7-8 are often called “The Failure of the Great Peace Conference.”** 
   1. **Correlate this with modern-day United Nations and other peace treaties**.
7. **Another section of this passage seems to begin in verse 7. What is the central theme of 7-13?** This is the tribulation period, right before the coming of the Lord
   1. **Does this have a local application with Assyria’s covenant with Hezekiah as well?**
8. **In verse 9, there is a reference to Lebanon; explain**.….means white, snow covered mountains, north, beautiful mountains with snow-capped peaks, and lofty cedars…Sharon—foot of Mt. Carmel, rose of Sharon, known for her flowers, Carmel divides it from the rocky hills, Bashan, upland, high plains, oak, wild cattle—lush, neat places.
9. **Verses 11 and 14 imply that God is a fire. Review Hebrews 12:29.** “For our God *is* a consuming fire.”
10. **In verse 13, two groups of people are addressed here. Name them.** 
    1. **“Ye that are far off”—the Gentiles**
    2. **“Ye that are near”—the Jews.**
11. **We see the Millennial Kingdom in verses 14-24. Describe.** 
    1. **In Isaiah 14, who are the sinners in Zion?** Godless Israelites
12. **What questions are asked by Israel in verses 14? Note their change of attitude from previous times.**
    1. Restate the answers to the above question in verse 15-16.
    2. Could verse 15 be hinting at modern-day media?—shuts his eyes from seeing evil…TV???
13. **How does verse 18 refer to corrupt leadership?**
14. **Restate verses 20-24, the final division for this chapter.**
    1. **Is this a reference to the Millennial Jerusalem?**
    2. **Explain Isaiah’s reference to “broad rivers and streams” in verse 21 about Jerusalem.** Babylon had the Euphrates River, Assyria the Tigris and upper Zab, and Egypt boasted of the Nile, but Jerusalem was landlocked, with neither river nor harbor. Zechariah gave an amazing prophecy which seems to point to Israel having a harbor during the Millennium.
       1. **See Zech. 14:4-8,** when the final earthquake describes an “opening up” of a deep valley to the Mediterranean Sea, and Jerusalem will be a seaport town during the Millennium**.**
    3. **Why is Jerusalem so wonderful? The answer is in verse 22. Explain.**
       1. **Note the three types of government mentioned in this section.**
       2. **Could this be an illusion to the 3-partitions of the American governmental system? Is this where America got her idea for the three-pronged governmental system?**
15. **Review the rebuke of God’s enemies in verse 23.**
    1. **In Isaiah’s near future, explain how God defeats Israel’s enemies, Assyria.**
    2. **Can this near-future reference to Sennarachib’s defeat, look further to the defeat of the Anti-Christ in the Tribulation?**
16. **The final verse of this chapter speaks about the mortals who dwell during the millennial reign. Describe their health and wellbeing.**

**Here are “The Promises!”**

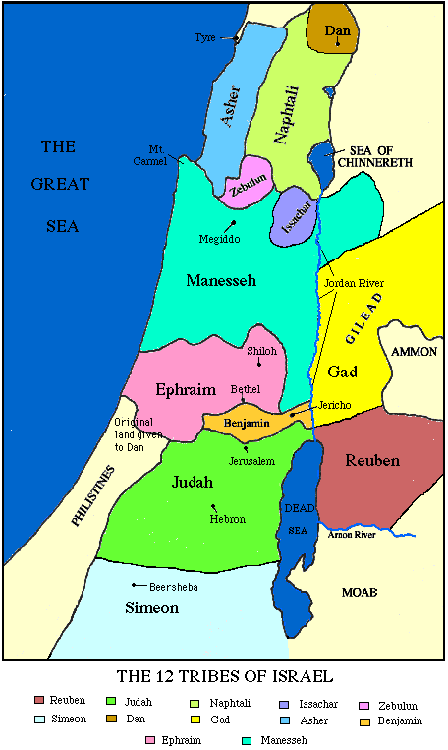
**John 20:24-29,** “24Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.”So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”26And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” 27Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here,* and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”28And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”29Jesus said to him, “Thomas,because you have seen Me, you have believed**. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.””**

**In Zechariah 12:10,** “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only *son,* and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.”

**Zechariah 13:6,** “And *one* will say to him, ‘What are these wounds between your arms?’Then he will answer, ‘*Those* with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.”

**Isaiah 32:1** “Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule with justice.”

**Isaiah 33:6,** “Wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times, and the strength of salvation; the fear of the Lord is His treasure.”



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