The Life and Times of Isaiah: The Judgment of Moab, Isaiah 15-16

Nations listed in Isaiah 13-39

Egypt Jacob

Israel

Aram (Damascus)

Edom

Philistia

Moab

Arabia

Assyria

Babylon

Medio Persia

Tyre and Sidon

Isaiah 14 announces the coming destruction of Babylon, Assyria, and Philistia

Isaiah 15 proclaims the coming destruction of Moab

Isaiah's broken heart and sorrow over the destruction of Moab

Isaiah 15:1-2 Surely in a night Ar of Moab is devastated and ruined; Surely in a night Kir of Moab is devastated and ruined. They have gone up to the temple and to Dibon, even to the high places to weep. Moab wails over Nebo and Medeba; Everyone's head is bald and every beard is cut off.

Isaiah 15:3-4 In their streets they have girded themselves with sackcloth; On their housetops and in their squares everyone is wailing, dissolved in tears. Heshbon and Elealeh also cry out, their voice is heard all the way to Jahaz; Therefore the armed men of Moab cry aloud; His soul trembles within him.

Isaiah's broken heart and sorrow over those fleeing the destruction of Moab

Isaiah 15:5-6 My heart cries out for Moab; His fugitives are as far as Zoar and Eglath-shelishiyah, for they go up the ascent of Luhith weeping; Surely on the road to Horonaim they raise a cry of distress over their ruin. For the waters of Nimrim are desolate. Surely the grass is withered, the tender grass died out, there is no green thing.

Isaiah 15:7 Therefore the abundance which they have acquired and stored up they carry off over the brook of Arabim.

In the Future, even more Trouble Comes for Moab

Isaiah 15:8-9 For the cry of distress has gone around the territory of Moab, its wail goes as far as Eglaim and its wailing even to Beer-elim. For the waters of Dimon are full of blood; Surely I will bring added woes upon Dimon, a lion upon the fugitives of Moab and upon the remnant of the land.

Advice to Moab

Isaiah 16:1 Send the tribute lamb to the ruler of the land, from Sela by way of the wilderness to the mountain of the daughter of Zion. Then, like fleeing birds or scattered nestlings, the daughters of Moab will be at the fords of the Arnon.

Isaiah 16:3 "Give us advice, make a decision; Cast your shadow like night at high noon; Hide the outcasts, do not betray the fugitive."

Isaiah 16:4-5 "Let the outcasts of Moab stay with you; Be a hiding place to them from the destroyer." For the extortioner has come to an end, destruction has ceased, oppressors have completely disappeared from the land. A throne will even be established in lovingkindness, and a judge will sit on it in faithfulness in the tent of David; Moreover, he will seek justice and be prompt in righteousness.

Isaiah 16:6-7 We have heard of the pride of Moab, an excessive pride; Even of his arrogance, pride, and fury; His idle boasts are false. Therefore Moab will wail; everyone of Moab will wail. You will moan for the raisin cakes of Kir-hareseth as those who are utterly stricken.

Isaiah 16:10 Gladness and joy are taken away from the fruitful field; In the vineyards also there will be no cries of joy or jubilant shouting, no treader treads out wine in the presses, for I have made the shouting to cease.

Isaiah 16:11-12 Therefore my heart intones like a harp for Moab and my inward feelings for Kir-hareseth. So it will come about when Moab presents himself, when he wearies himself upon his high place and comes to his sanctuary to pray, that he will not prevail.

The Three Year Warning

Isaiah 16:13-14 This is the word which the Lord spoke earlier concerning Moab. But now the Lord speaks, saying, "Within three years, as a hired man would count them, the glory of Moab will be degraded along with all his great population, and his remnant will be very small and impotent."