

The Life and Times of Isaiah:
The Beauty of the Coming King, Isaiah 33

Woe to the Destroyer. Assyria? Babylon? Other?

Isaiah 33:1 Woe to you, O destroyer, while you were not destroyed; And he who is treacherous, while others did not deal treacherously with him. As soon as you finish destroying, you will be destroyed; As soon as you cease to deal treacherously, others will deal treacherously with you.

A cry for help from the people of God

Isaiah 33:2 O Lord, be gracious to us; we have waited for You. Be their strength every morning, our salvation also in the time of distress.

Isaiah 33:3-4 At the sound of the tumult peoples flee; At the lifting up of Yourself nations disperse. Your spoil is gathered as the caterpillar gathers; As locusts rushing about men rush about on it.

The LORD is exalted as the people trust in Him

Isaiah 33:5-6 The Lord is exalted, for He dwells on high; He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness. And He will be the stability of your times, a wealth of salvation, wisdom and knowledge; The fear of the Lord is his treasure.

A time of mourning in the streets of Jerusalem and surrounding cities

Isaiah 33:7-8 Behold, their brave men cry in the streets, the ambassadors of peace weep bitterly. The highways are desolate, the traveler has ceased, he has broken the covenant, he has despised the cities, he has no regard for man.

Isaiah 33:9 The land mourns and pines away, Lebanon is shamed and withers; Sharon is like a desert plain, and Bashan and Carmel lose their foliage.

Arise Oh LORD!

Isaiah 33:10-11 "Now I will arise," says the Lord, "Now I will be exalted, now I will be lifted up. You have conceived chaff, you will give birth to stubble; My breath will consume you like a fire."

Isaiah 33:12-13 "The peoples will be burned to lime, like cut thorns which are burned in the fire. You who are far away, hear what I have done; And you who are near, acknowledge My might."

The terror of Jerusalem

Isaiah 33:14 Sinners in Zion are terrified; Trembling has seized the godless. "Who among us can live with the consuming fire? Who among us can live with continual burning?"

Confidence in those who walk in righteousness and truthfulness

Isaiah 33:15 He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity, he who rejects unjust gain and shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe; He who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking upon evil;

In Contrast to the destroyer, there is a coming King

Isaiah 33:16-17 He will dwell on the heights, his refuge will be the impregnable rock; His bread will be given him, his water will be sure. Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; They will behold a far-distant land.

Isaiah 33:18-19 Your heart will meditate on terror: "Where is he who counts? Where is he who weighs? Where is he who counts the towers?" You will no longer see a fierce people, a people of unintelligible speech which no one comprehends, of a stammering tongue which no one understands.

Isaiah 33:20 Look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts; Your eyes will see Jerusalem, an undisturbed habitation, a tent which will not be folded; Its stakes will never be pulled up, nor any of its cords be torn apart.

Isaiah 33:21-22 But there the majestic One, the LORD, will be for us a place of rivers and wide canals on which no boat with oars will go, and on which no mighty ship will pass; For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; He will save us

Isaiah 33:23-24 Your tackle hangs slack; It cannot hold the base of its mast firmly, nor spread out the sail. Then the prey of an abundant spoil will be divided; The lame will take the plunder. And no resident will say, "I am sick"; The people who dwell there will be forgiven their iniquity.