

023



The Father Knows Best

School of the Bible Class

Isaiah

Isaiah 28-29

023

October 2, 2022

Donald L Goertzen Presenter

Indian Hills Community Church

Continuing

Clues for the Detectives in Isaiah 28-29

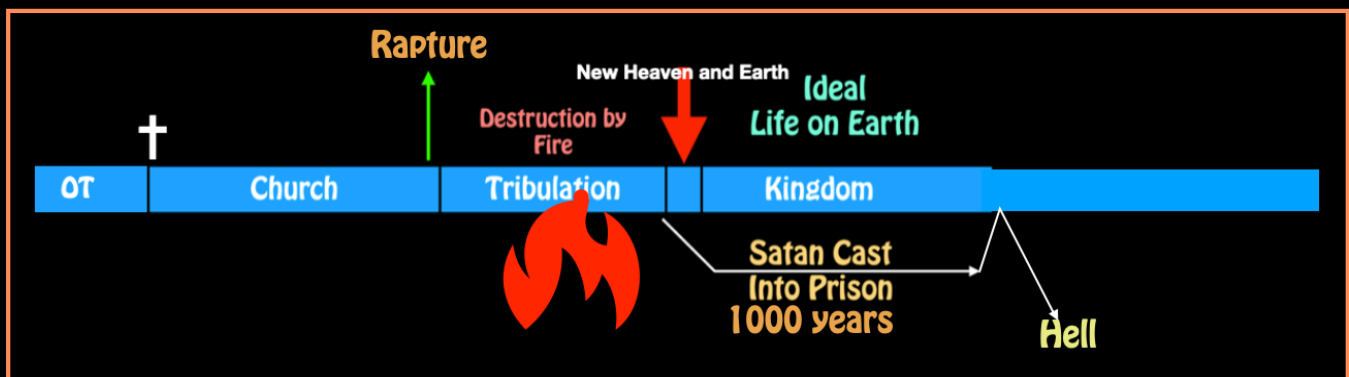
Tribulation and Kingdom Truth



Clues for the Detectives in Isaiah



- We renew our pursuit of the book of Isaiah.
- Last week we had an overview of the challenge we have accepted to determine the eschatology of Isaiah. (No recording! 😞)
- I have promoted the idea that the warning, judgment and peace cycle (pattern) is evident in Isaiah— and that the New Testament must agree with the Old, not vis-a-versa!
- We this see this choice in 2 Peter 3:10f “But the day of the Lord **will come (not end)** like a thief, in which the **heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.**” (2 Peter 3:10)



- The order is correct—“looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! [This is tribulation talk. Isa 24.]
- But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.” (2 Peter 3:12–13)

Mike Vlach Says—

He affirms what I have been teaching 🧐



- "The **New Creation Model** affirms that eternal life and the coming kingdom of God involve the **restoration** of all creation from the negative effects of the fall.
- "This includes both the redemption of man and the restoration of creation. Eternal life eventually involves embodied life on a **restored** earth where God's people(s) enjoy His presence and have vibrant social and cultural interactions with other redeemed people.
- "This also involves a functional reign over the **new** earth (see Rev. 22:5) with nations and real cultural activities (see Rev. 21:24, 26).
- "This all occurs because of Jesus, the Last Adam and Messiah, who restores and reconciles all things (Acts 3:21; Col. 1:20)."

A Cycle of Judgment Prophesied

- Isaiah 24-27 has given us the prophetic judgment-blessing cycle. (Tribulation and Restoration)
- This mirrors Isaiah, Revelation 6-22 and 2 Peter 3. Tribulation and Restoration.
- But now in the next section briefly we return to the Isaiah's quasi-historic setting of c 730 B. C.
- Israel has centuries, millennia to go before it experiences the blessing of the Kingdom in the New Heaven and Earth.

Isaiah 24-27 Section

- Having just ended (26-27) a reflection on their glorious future, it is burdensome that we need to back up into the reality of Judah (and Israel's) sin.
- It starts with a rush—1. “Woe to the proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim, And to the fading flower of its glorious beauty, Which is at the head of the fertile valley Of those who are overcome with wine!
- 2. Behold, the Lord has a strong and mighty agent [Assyria]; As a storm of hail, a tempest of destruction, Like a storm of mighty overflowing waters, He has cast it [judgment] down to the earth with His hand.” (Isaiah 28:1–2) (This is metaphoric or simile.)

Continuing

Clues for the Detectives in Isaiah 28-29

Tribulation and Kingdom Truth



Hosea—circa 750 B C

- We are fortunate to have in our Sunday Night study the book of Hosea written about the state of Israel in this very time of Isaiah. Also Amos.
- Hosea is ordered to take a wife from harlotry—Hosea is ordered to remain faithful to her, while she continues to ply her trade elsewhere.
- The marriage will be a reflection of “God and Israel” in graphic detail. Even today it still is a jaw dropping example of God’s faithfulness to his unfaithful children (application across all times).

- (Skipping 3-4)
- “The proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim is trodden under foot. And the fading flower of its glorious beauty, Which is at the head of the fertile valley, Will be like the first-ripe fig prior to summer, Which one sees, And as soon as it is in his hand, He swallows it.” (Isaiah 28:3–4)

Judgment is Put Against Hope

- Again Hope in the midst of judgment:
- “In that day the Lord of hosts will become a beautiful crown And a glorious diadem to the remnant of His people; A spirit of justice for him who sits in judgment, A strength to those who repel the onslaught at the gate.” (Isaiah 28:5–6)

Judah is Included

- **“And these [Judah] also reel with wine and stagger from strong drink: The priest and the prophet reel with strong drink, They are confused by wine, they stagger from strong drink; They reel while having visions, They totter when rendering judgment. For all the tables are full of filthy vomit, without a single clean place.” (Isaiah 28:7–8)**

Judah is Included

- ““To whom would He teach knowledge, And to whom would He interpret the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just taken from the breast? “For He says, ‘Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there.’ ” **Indeed, He will speak to this people Through stammering lips and a foreign (Assyria-Babylon) tongue,** He who said to them, “Here is rest, give rest to the weary,” And, “Here is repose,” but they would not listen. **So the word of the Lord to them will be, “Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there,” That they may go and stumble backward, be broken, snared and taken captive.”** (Isaiah 28:9–13)

Judah is Included

- “Therefore, hear the word of the Lord, O scoffers, Who rule this people who are in [Judah] Jerusalem, Because you have said, “We have made a covenant with death [Egypt], And with Sheol we have made a pact. [They say] The overwhelming scourge will not reach us when it passes by, **For we [depend on undependable Egypt, we] have made falsehood our refuge and we have concealed ourselves with deception.**” Therefore [hope in spite of their failure] thus says the Lord God, **“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, [Messiah] a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it [Him] will not be disturbed.”** (Isaiah 28:14–16)
- Ed: Contrasted with depending on Egypt.

Near or Far Prophecy?

- ““I will make justice the measuring line And righteousness the level; Then hail will sweep away the refuge of lies And the waters will overflow the secret place. “Your covenant with death (Assy/Bab. or Anti-Christ?) will be canceled, And your pact with Sheol will not stand; When the overwhelming scourge passes through, **Then you become its trampling place.** “As often as it passes through, it will seize you; For morning after morning it will pass through, anytime during the day or night, **And it will be sheer terror to understand what it means.**””
(Isaiah 28:17–19)

They Should Learn Obedience

- The rest of the section warns about how God will deal with his rebellious people—making life uncomfortable.
- For example they will think that their—**“The bed is too short on which to stretch out, And the blanket is too small to wrap oneself in.”** (Isaiah 28:20)
- **“And now do not carry on as scoffers, Or your fetters will be made stronger; (Isaiah 28:22)**

How God Works be Patient

- **“For his God instructs and teaches him [the farmer] properly.” (Isaiah 28:26)**
- **Example: “For dill is not threshed with a threshing sledge, Nor is the cartwheel driven over cummin; But dill is beaten out with a rod, and cummin with a club.” (Isaiah 28:27)**
- **All natural things—“This also comes from the Lord of hosts, Who has made His counsel wonderful and His wisdom great.” (Isaiah 28:29)(Challenged today!)**

Tribulation Warning

This is not likely historic since we do not allegorize

- “Woe, O Ariel, Ariel [2x Fires of God on/at Jerusalem] the city where David once camped! Add year to year, observe your feasts on schedule. I will bring distress to Ariel, **And she will be a city of lamenting and mourning; And she will be like an Ariel to me. I will camp against you encircling you, And I will set siege-works [Zech 12:2] against you, And I will raise up battle towers against you. Then you will be brought low; From the earth you will speak, And from the dust where you are prostrate Your words will come. Your voice will also be like that of a spirit from the ground, And your speech will whisper from the dust. But the multitude of your enemies will become like fine dust, And the multitude of the ruthless ones like the chaff which blows away; (Isaiah 29:1–6)**

Tribulation Warning

This is not likely historic since we do not allegorize

- “And the multitude of the ruthless ones like the chaff which blows away;
- And it will happen instantly, suddenly. From the Lord of hosts you will be punished with thunder and earthquake and loud noise, With whirlwind and tempest and the flame of a consuming fire.” (Isaiah 29:1–6)
- Our view is that the so called conflagration is the Tribulation.
- Continuing—

Tribulation Warning

This is not likely historic since we do not allegorize

- “And the multitude of all the nations who wage war against Ariel, (Jerusalem) Even all who wage war against her and her stronghold, and who distress her, [to them it] Will be like a dream, a vision of the night. It will be as when a hungry man dreams—
- Ed: **The enemy in besieging Jerusalem is left unsatisfied:** “And behold, he is eating; But when he awakens, his hunger is not satisfied, Or as when a thirsty man dreams— And behold, he is drinking, But when he awakens, behold, he is faint And his thirst is not quenched.
- Thus [it will be for] the multitude of all the nations Who [will] wage war against Mount Zion.” (Isaiah 29:7–8)

Pedagogical Moment

- Our hermeneutical choice when dealing with the texts in Isaiah—
- For the amillennial writers (on prophecy) they are forced to understand the text as historic. In other words it was during Hezekiah's time when the Assyrians besieged the city.
- But they have to allegorize the events that did not happen—as in nature—
- We need not give “partial fulfillment” to these texts. That strips them of any authority and makes the reader the author.
- Better leave the text as unfulfilled.

**Israel/Judah is Blind and
Blinded!**

Israel/Judah is Blind and Blinded!

- “Be delayed and wait, (Israel Prepare for a dumbfounding message)
Blind yourselves and be blind;
- “They become drunk, but not with wine, They eat and are not with strong drink. For the Lord has poured out a spirit of deep sleep, He has shut your eyes, the seers, and He has covered your heads, the seers. The entire message will be to you like the words of a sealed book, which they will give to the one who is literate, saying, “Please read this,” he will say, “I cannot, for it is sealed.” Then the book will be given to the one who is illiterate, saying, “Please read this.” And he will say, “I cannot read.”” (Isaiah 29:9–12)

The prophet's message falls on dead ears.

Israel/Judah is Blind and Blinded!

- Ed: This is a breath taking section. God promised the Israelites great blessing as they entered the Land (1400 BC).
Now after 600+ years God is pulling down the shades on his beloved people—for the foreseeable future.
- It would appear that this is **not a temporary amnesia or blindness** but a state that will last until the Second Advent.
- With this pronouncement **Israel is doomed**. They have had their chance (again and again) now time has run out.
- **The rest of the history of the chosen people will be conducted in the darkness of night. THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING JEWISH!**

Hosea!

- Here the lesson of Hosea rings true. Hosea will continue to be faithful to his wife as God will be faithful to his obstinant people. He will blind them put them on a leash but never forget His promise to them.
- They will crucify His Son and be proud they did it. God will scatter them into the nations of the world as judgment, yet they are a blessing.
- It is through these blinded people that the Messiah appeared and then only to disappear, then finally reappear when they have a changed heart and can see again—it is now 2800 yrs and counting!

But the Skeleton Still Functions In an argument God and Israel

- “Then the Lord said, “Because **this people** draw near with their words And **honor Me with their lip service**, But they remove their **hearts far from Me**, And their reverence for Me consists of **tradition learned by rote**,
- Therefore behold, I will once again deal marvelously (extra ordinarily-not good) with this people, wondrously marvelous;
- Resulting in: **And the wisdom of their wise men will perish, And the discernment of their discerning men will be concealed.”**
- (Isaiah 29:13–16) **Ed: It is striking that so many of the socialist thinkers have been and are Jewish—double and triple blindness.**

But the Skeleton Still Functions In an argument God and Israel

- [In the mean time] “Woe to those who deeply **hide their plans** from the Lord, And whose deeds are **done in a dark place**, And they say, “**Who sees us?**” or “**Who knows us?**”
- You turn things around! (We say upside down.)
- “Shall the **potter be considered as equal with the clay**, [Jer. 18:4f; Rom. 9:1] That what is made would say to its maker, “He did not make me”; Or what is formed say to him who formed it, “He has no understanding”?” (Isaiah 29:13–16) **Ed: A typical left argument of autonomous Man.**

Lebanon the Extended Inheritance

- “Is it not yet just a little while Before Lebanon will be turned into a fertile field, And the fertile field will be considered as a forest?
- On that day the deaf will hear [Jesus claimed fulfillment in these words as the Messiah, Matt. 11:5] words of a book, And out of their gloom and darkness [Matt. 4:16 Jesus used these words of Himself] the eyes of the blind will see. The afflicted also will increase their gladness in the Lord, And the needy of mankind will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.” (Isaiah 29:17–19)
- Note— the deaf hear etc this is for Jesus and the Kingdom but not dual fulfillment— since in both cases it is Jesus who fulfills the prophecy.

The End of the Wicked Enemy They will not survive in the Kingdom

- For and in the Kingdom “For the ruthless come to an end and the scornful are cut off; [Isa. 65:11]”
- Indeed all who are in the Kingdom is kept perfect—No act of unrighteousness can be carried out. It is judged at the ‘intention stage.’
- (Isaiah 29:20–24) Ruling with a rod or iron. Isa. 2

The End of the Wicked Enemy

- “Therefore thus says the Lord, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob:
- **Kingdom Living:** “Jacob shall not now be ashamed, nor shall his face now turn pale; But when he sees his children, [Isa. 65:23 children not for calamity] [and] the **work of My hands**, in his midst, [Isa. 65:21f]
- They will [**all in the kingdom**] sanctify My name; Indeed, they [**all people former enemies, Jer. 31:34**] will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob **And will stand in awe of the God of Israel.**
- **Kingdom living of the unrighteous:** “Those who **err in mind** [intention] will know the truth, And those who [would] criticize will accept instruction.” (Isaiah 29:20–24)

Conclusion of Isa. 28-29

- **Thus the promise made to Abraham is fulfilled in these prophetic words.**
- **How different is the message if we did not take the words literally?**
- **What use is the wisdom of men in face of God's revelation.**
- **Let us not doubt for a moment what is clearly the plan of God for the redemption of His entire creation.**

Thus far—