

Zion Lutheran Church
Sunday Morning Bible Study
Lesson 19

Isaiah Chapter 28

With chapter 28, we encounter six laments in six chapters (28-33). This will be followed by two chapters (34-35) dealing with final judgment which will be a direct result of the six laments. The six laments will warn against self-trust while promising God’s blessing on those who put their trust in Him.

1. “Ah” is an interesting word to start a section of scripture. Why would the prophet begin with “Ah”?

2. What is the “proud crown?” Who are the drunkards of Ephraim? (see map)

3. What did Isaiah compare the “proud crown” to? Why?

4. Who were those who were “overcome with wine?” Why would this cause Isaiah to say, “Ah”?

5. What did Isaiah behold? What does behold mean? How did Isaiah describe what he beheld? Why?

6. How would the “mighty and strong” one see the “proud crown?” What would this lead to?

7. Verses five and six are a short interlude in the midst of the mayhem. What does “in that day” refer to?

8. What is Isaiah referring to when he writes, “these also...?”

9. To get an idea of what Isaiah is speaking about in verses seven and eight it might help to review what he saw and/or what the LORD revealed to him in advance. Remember, Isaiah served as a prophet during the reign of five different kings in Judah. What happened in Judah in the following verses?
2 Kings 16:2-4:

2 Kings 16:10-12

2 Chronicles 28:24-35

10. How did God view these actions and any similar actions that’s were/are still to come?

11. There is some debate as to who is asking the questions of verses nine and ten. One view is that it is the priests and prophets he had just condemned. If so, what do the questions reveal about them and their view of Isaiah and his message?

If it is Isaiah addressing the prophets and priests he had just condemned, what does it reveal?

12. Either way, it was not good! The result was that God would speak to His people. How would He do that? What is meant by that? (vss. 1-4)

13. What had the Lord said to His people? What would become of what He had said? (vss. 12-13)

14. Verse fourteen would support the view that verses nine and ten were the words of the false prophets and priests. What did Isaiah call them? Why?

15. What was meant by a covenant/agreement with death/Sheol?

16. What meant by the overwhelming whip passing through?

17. There is a unique play in the words, “for we have made lies our refuge, and in falsehood we have taken shelter.” Why did Isaiah write these statements in this way?

18. Verse sixteen reveals another great spiritual truth. If God says He will do something, it is such a certainty that He will do it that it is spoken of as if it has already happened. Verse sixteen was written in this way. What or who is the foundation or stone laid in Zion?

19. Why would “whoever believes not be in haste?”

20. How does the “tested stone” relate to God making “justice the line” and “righteousness the plumb line?”

21. Notice how verses 18-21 echo the final plague in Egypt when the angel of death passed through Egypt. Why would the message of these verses “be sheer terror” to the people?

22. How would God's actions of verses 18-21 be strange?

23. Isaiah finishes this chapter with a final appeal as he writes, "Give ear and hear my voice; Give attention and hear my speech." He then goes in to a six-verse discourse on farming. Why?

Israel / Ephraim at the Time of Elijah – Isaiah 28

