

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 218 – The Lord Takes Away Through Mourning (Isaiah 3:1-26)

1. What did the Lord take away from Jerusalem and Judah?

“(1) For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water,(2) The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, (3) The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator” (Isaiah 3:1-3).

- The children of Judah dwelt in the city of Jerusalem (**I Chronicles 9:3** and **Nehemiah 11:4**).
- Taking away the staff [sustenance; Strong’s # 4938] and stay [support; Strong’s # 4937] means the bringing of famine (**Psalms 105:16**) and God taking away Himself as their stay [support] (**II Samuel 22:19**). The remnant will have God as their stay in the future (**Isaiah 10:20**).
- God is also making sure there is no help from within (**II Kings 24:14-16**).

2. Who was going to lead Judah?

They’d really have no leaders as the youth rose up against the older and they looked for rulers without any real answers: *“(4) And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. (5) And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable. (6) When a man shall take hold of his brother of the house of his father, saying, Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler, and let this ruin be under thy hand: (7) In that day shall he swear, saying, I will not be a healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing: make me not a ruler of the people” (Isaiah 3:4-7).*

- Young rulers means ignorance (**I Kings 3:5-7**). Young rulers came for bad (**II Chronicles 33:1-19**), but not all bad (**II Chronicles 34:1-35:24**).
- Oppression was coming (**Isaiah 9:19-21** and **Jeremiah 50:33**).
- He won’t heal them either (**Jeremiah 14:19**).

3. Why was God going to cause Jerusalem to be ruined and Judah to fall?

Their doings were against Him and they provoked Him: *“For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the LORD, to provoke the eyes of his glory” (Isaiah 3:8).*

- The ruin of Jerusalem (**II Chronicles 36:17-19** and **Micah 3:12**).
- Because of evil tongues (**Psalms 73:8-9**, **Isaiah 57:4**, and **Malachi 3:13-15**; cf. **Matthew 12:34-37**) and doings (**Jeremiah 21:14** and **Hosea 4:9**).
- They ignorantly provoked God (**Isaiah 65:3-5**; cf. **Exodus 23:21**).

4. Did Judah try to hide their sins?

No: *"The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves"* (Isaiah 3:9).

- Think about those who don't even care that God sees their sins (**Genesis 13:13** and **Jeremiah 44:16-17**), which have no shame (**Jeremiah 6:15**).
- Who do people like that think they are (**Isaiah 45:9-11**, **I Corinthians 10:9-12**, and **I Corinthians 10:22**)?

5. With Judah, did God continue His pattern of you reap what you sow?

Yes: *"(10) Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. (11) Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him"* (Isaiah 3:10-11).

- That was and is how God judges (**Job 4:8**, **Job 34:11**, **Proverbs 1:31**, **Proverbs 12:14**, **Proverbs 14:14**, **Proverbs 22:8**, **Proverbs 24:12**, **Jeremiah 2:19**, **Jeremiah 4:16-18**, **Jeremiah 32:19**, **Ezekiel 22:31**, **Hosea 7:2**, **Hosea 8:7**, **John 5:28-29**, **II Corinthians 5:10**, and **Galatians 6:7-8**).

6. Who caused Judah to err?

Their leaders: *"As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths"* (Isaiah 3:12).

- **Isaiah 9:16**, **Jeremiah 5:31**, and **Matthew 15:14**.

7. Were those in Judah who abused others going to get away from being judged for their sins?

No: *"(13) The LORD standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people. (14) The LORD will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses. (15) What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? saith the Lord GOD of hosts"* (Isaiah 3:13-15).

- **Psalms 12:5** and **Proverbs 22:22-23**.

8. Why was God going to punish the women of Judah?

They were haughty, walking around as though they were the Queens of the earth in an outward beauty that God would take from them: *"(16) Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: (17) Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts. (18) In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires*

like the moon, (19) The chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers, (20) The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, (21) The rings, and nose jewels, (22) The changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins, (23) The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the veils. (24) And it shall come to pass, that instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; and instead of a girdle a rent; and instead of well set hair baldness; and instead of a stomacher a girding of sackcloth; and burning instead of beauty. (25) Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war. (26) And her gates shall lament and mourn; and she being desolate shall sit upon the ground” (Isaiah 3:16-26).

- God is not ignoring the sins of the women (**Isaiah 32:9-11**).
- Being haughty leads to trouble with God (**Proverbs 16:18**).
- The scab on their heads (**Deuteronomy 28:27**) to deface their beauty.
- God was going to expose them for embarrassment (cf. **Jeremiah 13:22**).
- The men falling by the sword present many issues for the women and the young (**Jeremiah 11:22**).
- Even the virgin women of Jerusalem will hang their heads low (**Lamentations 2:10**).