

## ISAIAH – Chapter 28

Vs. 1 Woe to the Northern Kingdom (I Kings 12:16) – Israel, Ephraim (the largest tribe), and the area where Samaria was built.

Woe – Isa. 5:8, 11, 18, 20, 21, 22 – impending doom resulting in grief.

Woe to the drunkard – those who are overcome with wine! Eph. 5:18-20  
Who have come under the control of...?

The proud crown of Ephraim at the head of the fertile valley – Samaria.  
I Kings 16:21-24; Isa. 28:4

The wealth of the city – thrown away by the drunkard.

Vs. 2 Assyria will come down against Samaria and its surrounding nation like a strong hailstorm, windstorm, mighty flood.

God is the one who has cast down His people – with His own hand.

Vs. 3-4 Assyria will:

- 1) Trample it underfoot with no regard for its worth.
- 2) Trample it like a flower whose glorious beauty has faded.
- 3) Like a ripened fig, which is eaten by a stranger before it can be harvested – gone.

The northern kingdom – abandoned by its God. Hosea 9:10-14

Vs. 5 In that day – 2800 years down the road; the Lord, rather than the city, will be the beautiful crown – a glorious diadem to the remnant of His people Israel.  
Rom. 11:11-24

Vs. 6 In that day – the Lord will become:

- 1) A spirit of justice for him who sits in judgment.
- 2) A strength to those who repel the onslaught...

Vs. 7 The people and their leaders:

- 1) Reel with wine.
- 2) Stagger from strong drink.

That which they drink confuses them.

They reel while having visions.

They totter when rendering judgment.

Vs. 8 So drunk, they have covered their tables with vomit!

Vs. 9-10 The speakers are those described in verses 7-8.

They are angry – whom does Isaiah think he is “teaching.”

Those born yesterday? For Isaiah says...verse 10.

Isaiah’s teaching is described like how one would teach a small child.

Vs. 11 Isaiah’s response – if you will not listen to me then God will speak to you through another people who will speak another language and come from a different culture.

Vs. 12 God has offered them rest and repose if they would just listen to Isaiah, **but** they would not listen.

Vs. 13 **So**, God will deliver to them the same message, but rather than Isaiah being the spokesman for God, Assyria will be. Isa. 10:6 (the godless nation is Israel.)

Vs. 14 Isaiah’s focus turns once again to Judah for Jerusalem and its people are once again the focus of his message.

Hear the Word of the Lord, those who rule in Jerusalem.

Vs. 15 The rulers of Jerusalem think they are safe because they have made a covenant with death, a pact with Sheol.

Falsehood and deception have become their refuge.

NOTE: In the Ugaritic pantheon, death was the god of the underworld. Apparently the leaders of Judah have attempted to form a pact “with the devil” in an effort to spare themselves from the coming Assyrians.

Vs. 16 **Therefore** – thus says God! He will lay in Zion a Stone, a cornerstone, a foundation stone.

He who believes will not be disturbed.

Eph. 2:19-22; I Pet. 2:6-10; Isa. 8:14-15; Ps. 118:22-23; Rom. 9:33

Vs. 17 God will bring about justice and righteousness, both key terms used to describe the kingdom age.

Lies and hiding will be swept away!

Vs. 18 God will undo the damage His people have done to themselves.

They had made a pact hoping to “avoid” the consequences of the coming army (Assyria). Isa. 28:15 God has canceled their covenant and pact. When Assyria arrives they will be “trampled” by them (focus must be Israel and not Judah). Isa. 10:6, 5:5

Vs. 19 Wave upon wave will come over Israel...

Morning after morning.

Day after day.

Night after night.

Sheer terror.

Vs. 20 The bed is too short.

The blanket is too small.

Vs. 21 The Lord is the power behind Assyria! They are simply doing His bidding.

1) As at Mt. Perazim (2 Sam. 5:18-21) – the focus of God’s anger has shifted – Israel and not the Philistines.

He is forced to act towards His own people as He once acted towards their enemies.

2) As in the valley of Gibeon. 2 Sam. 5:22-25 (wave upon wave).

God will carry out His unusual task, His extraordinary work – slaughter and carry away His own people.

Vs. 22 Isaiah appeals to them to stop their mocking or they will find themselves bound even tighter in fetters.

Isaiah is speaking the words, which he has heard. (Do not kill the bearer of bad news – consider the one he is carrying it for).

Vs. 23 Again a plea – listen and benefit from my ministry.

“Why do I make you my enemy when I tell you the truth?”

Vs. 24-28 A farmer must crush his crops if he is to get his desired result.

Dill and cumin are beaten out with a rod or stick.

Grain is ground with a millstone.

Different crops must be dealt with differently.

All of the above with a view to the end product.

It is never the farmer’s plan to destroy his crop. Each handling is in view of the end product.

Vs. 29 The Word that God has a plan for those He temporarily “works with,” also comes from Him. He judges, yet He binds. He breaks down, yet He lifts up.