

Studies in Isaiah

Topic: God's Judgment Upon Judah and the World

Scripture: Isaiah 2

Memory Verse: Isaiah 2:10

Lesson 2

Isaiah 2

INTRODUCTION: Having presented the charges against Judah and Jerusalem in chapter one, God, the great Judge, now speaks through His prophet Isaiah, concerning His judgment to come. Actually, chapters two through five constitute one complete prophecy concerning God's judgment upon the nation of Judah, and upon the nations of the world. Judah will certainly be judged at the hands of the Babylonians in 606 BC, but this prophecy also extends to a judgment which is still yet future even today. This future judgment will include all twelve tribes of Israel as well as all the nations of the world. (Isaiah 2:4; 2:19) This chapter records the first part of this prophecy concerning **God's Judgment Upon Judah and the World.**

I. A PREVIEW OF THE FUTURE OF JUDAH AND THE WORLD v 1-9

- A. God tells Judah and Jerusalem about their glorious future when all nations will look to them for leadership in the world v 1-4
The "*mountain*" (v 2) means "*a kingdom, an authority, or a rule.*" (Daniel 2:35; 2:44) Isaiah foretells Judah of a time "*in the last days*" (v 2) when the whole world will come to Jerusalem to seek the Lord, and to hear His Word. (Isaiah 66:20) The Lord will judge the world in His kingdom from Mount Zion (v 3) for a period of 1,000 years. King Jesus will rule and reign over all nations of the world, and since He will command the nations, there will be peace at last upon the earth. This 1,000 year reign of Christ over the earth has commonly been called "*The Millennial Reign.*" (Isaiah 9:7; 11:9; 65:25; Matthew 16:28; Micah 4:3-4; Revelation 20:1-6)
- B. God calls to all the "*house of Jacob*" to return to Him, and seek His forgiveness v 5-9
The "*house of Jacob*" (v 5) refers not just to the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, but to the remaining members of each of the twelve tribes of Israel. All the tribes of Israel had adopted new religious ideas from the heathen and added them to their own religion. Notice the areas in which God says that the "*house of Jacob*" has broken His law:
- 1) "***They be replenished from the east***" (v 6) – They had established trade relations with the nations of the East (I Kings 11:2; Jeremiah 10:2; Numbers 33:55)
 - 2) "***Are soothsayers like the Philistines***" (v 6) – They trusted the sayings of men rather than the Word of God (Micah 5:12)

- 3) **"They please themselves in the children of strangers"** (v 6) – They had allowed their sons and daughters to intermarry with the heathen around the land of Canaan (Deuteronomy 7:1-4)
- 4) **"Their land also is full of silver and gold"** (v 7) – They had sought after riches rather than the Lord. (Deuteronomy 8:13-14)
- 5) **"Their land is full of horses"** (v 7) – They were trusting in horses and chariots rather than in the Lord (Deuteronomy 17:16)
- 6) **"Their land is full of idols"** (v 8) – They were worshipping idols rather than the true and living God (Exodus 20:3-5)

II A PREVIEW OF THE JUDGMENT OF JUDAH AND THE WORLD v 10-22

- A. God calls upon all men to observe His justice and judgment upon this wicked world v 10-18
- The "*day of the Lord*" is the phrase God uses here to refer to all the events involved in His judgment of the earth in "*the last days*." The judgments of God are basically contained in a seven-year period called "*The Tribulation*." (Deuteronomy 4:30; Matthew 24:21) Notice the places where God's judgment will fall in the Tribulation Period:
- 1) **"Everyone that is proud and lofty"** (v 12; v 17) – The judgment of God will be upon the pride and arrogance of man (Proverbs 15:25)
 - 2) **"Upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills"** (v 14) – The judgment of God will be upon kingdoms and governments (Ephesians 6:12)
 - 3) **"Upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall"** (v 15) – The judgment of God will come upon the military weapons and defenses of the world's nations. (Revelation 19:19-21)
 - 4) **"Upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures"** (v 16) – The judgment of God will come upon all commerce, trade and art. (Revelation 18:9-20)
 - 5) **"The idols he shall utterly abolish"** (v 18) – The judgment of God will come upon all forms of false religions. (Deuteronomy 7:5-10)
- B. God will "*shake terribly the earth*" in the day of His wrath upon this sinful world v 19-22
- During the Tribulation Period upon this earth, lost men will run and try to hide from the judgment of God, but there will be no "*holes of the rocks*" or "*caves of the earth*" (v 19) where they will be able to escape the fury of an holy and righteous God. (Revelation 6:12-17)

TEACHERS' TIP: Home is a place where you grow up wanting to leave and grow old wanting to go back to.

Next Memory Verse: Isaiah 3:11