

A Warning of Judgment and a Promise of Hope

In the message this morning we shall see the warning to national Israel keeping in mind the words of the Apostle Paul, not all Israel is Israel. At the same time we shall hear the comfort of our God to His people, the Israel of God. Two separate people. Similar names, but opposite destinies.

A. The warning to Israel

1. On a roll write Maher Shalal Hash Baz - Be quick to the booty, make speed to the spoil
 - a. Isaiah's wife bears a child and he is to be named Maher Shalal Hash Baz
 - b. With this warning attached - *Before the child knows how to say "My father and My mother Damascus and Samaria will be taken away by the King of Assyria*
 - c. Before the baby will be able to say daddy and mommy the kingdom of northern Israel and Samaria who had purpose the destruction of Jerusalem will be taken away into captivity by the king of Assyria."
2. The Northern Kingdom of Israel will be no more.
 - a. This is a kingdom that had come into existence by means of rebellion
 - b. This is that kingdom that had set up the idols of calves to worship
 - c. There had been no covenant promise to them of a continuing kingdom and a king who would reign forever.
 - d. That nation will come to an end never again to be a nation
3. God is not mocked whatever a man sows that shall he reap.
 - a. Sowed disobedience they shall reap judgment

B. Now a message to Judah

- a. You have despised the soft rivers of Shiloah
- b. To be understood thus, you have rejected the protection of God over the House of David
- c. Instead they had sought an alliance with Assyria
- d. Because they rejected God's protection - Assyria will come as a mighty river and carry them away
- e. Calvin on the passage wrote:

The small and gentle waters should be more highly valued by us than the large and rapid rivers of all the nations, and we ought not to envy the great power of the ungodly. Such is the import of what is written in the Psalms:
"The streams of the river shall make glad the city of God, the sanctuary of the tabernacle of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; God will help her before the dawn. Let the heathen rage, let the kingdoms be moved, and let the earth melt when the sound is uttered. Jehovah of armies is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."
Psalm 46:4-7
- f. This must be the faith of the church - *Zech 4:6 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts.*

C. Once again we see that God warns Judah of her destruction - but yet speaks of hope and comfort

1. Tree cut down, but a sprout grows out of it
2. Also remember the contrast of the two names.
 - a. One son by the name of Shear Joshub - A remnant shall return

- b. The other Maher Shalal Hash Baz - Be quick to the booty, make speed to the spoil
- 3. Both present nations of Israel and Judah will be brought to an end
- 4. But to Judah, the promise of a remnant through whom will come a Redeemer
 - a. But not to the whole house of national or secular Judah

Isa 8:14 He will be as a sanctuary, but a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense to both the houses of Israel, as a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

- b. To the remnant, to the Israel of God - a sanctuary
 - c. To the rebellious a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense to both houses of Israel
 - d. Not all Israel is Israel - not to the secular nation, but to those who trust in Jesus Christ the only sanctuary of God's people
5. One other observation He does not call them "His people" but "this people"

*Isa 6:9 And He said, "Go, and **tell this people**: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.'*

- a. Only the remnant is called "His people" - Jer 32:37-39 **I will bring them back to this place,** and I will cause them to dwell safely. 38 **They shall be My people, and I will be their God;** then I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me forever
- b. The Apostle reiterates this in his letter to the Hebrews. - *Heb 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (cf Ez. 11:19)*

6. Finally I do not have time to comment in detail but desire to read Isaiah 9:1-2

Isa 9:1-2 Nevertheless the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, as when at first He lightly esteemed the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward more heavily oppressed her, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

7. Other than simply to note this passage if referenced to the ministry of our Lord by Matthew

Matt 4:13-14 And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet saying (and then the above quote from Isaiah 9:1 and 2)

CONCLUSION: In closing remind you of Simeon's witness there in the temple when he saw the infant Jesus

Luke 2:30-32 For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

And this brings us to prepare our hearts for next Lord's Day message:

For unto us a child is born whose Kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom.

Unto to us - unto **God's people, God's remnant** a child is born