

Isaiah

Part Five

The Folly of Trusting the nations (chapters 28 - 35)

Woe # 5 – Those Who Go to Egypt for Help 31:1-9

- **31:1-3 Woe Oracle: Seek Egypt rather than God**
 - **Military might is no substitute for God – Ps 127:1**
 - **Egypt had cavalry and chariots – the advanced and effective weapons of that day**
 - **They Egyptians are men, not God**
 - **The horses are flesh, not spirit**
 - **When horses of flesh meet the Spirit of God, they stumble**

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- **31:4-5 Two Choices**

- God will do battle against Mount Zion like a lion
- God will protect them like birds hovering over a nest

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- **31:6-9 Salvation Oracle**
 - **31:6-7 A Plea to Return**
 - **31:8-9 Assyria will Fall**

Interlude – Behold the King! – 32:1-20

- This section tells what they should be like after they respond to God's salvation from Assyria
- A comparison
 - Israel *should have been* a righteous remnant, but finally it took one man to fulfill that
 - Israel's leaders *should have been* righteous rulers like chapter 32, but it finally took one man to fulfill that

Interlude – Behold the King! – 32:1-20

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 - For leaders *in any area of service*, does this describe you?

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- **32:15-20** God's spirit poured out
 - Assyria flattens forests and towns like a storm
 - God's spirit restores through justice & righteousness

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 - **A sure foundation for our times**
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- **33:7-16** God and the Assyrian threat

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- **33:23-24 A Time of Faith-building**

Trusting God or the Nations?

34:1 – 35:10

- **34:1-17 Trust in the nations – a desert**
 - **34:1-2 God destroys the nations**
 - **34:3-4 Their world will fall apart**
 - **34:5-7 Sword of the Lord against the nations**
 - **Edom represents the nations that are enemies to God**
 - **34:8-17 Future of rebellious nations – desolation**
 - **Verses 9-15 are judgment language, not literal**

Trusting God or the Nations?

34:1 – 35:10

- **35:1-10 Trust in God – a Garden**
 - 35:1-2 The Glory and Majesty of God
 - 35:3-4 Assurance for the Weak & Timid
 - 35:5-10 God's Blessing Described
 - The opposite of desolation
 - The highway of holiness

Assignment for This Week

Read Isaiah 36 - 39