Isaiah - Commentaries by Clarence E. Lunden

Egypt-Assyria-Israel, Coming of Christ, The

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“But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it” (Psa. 94:15).

The Lord’s feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives. He will show Himself to the little remnant of Judah and Benjamin, as had been promised in Acts 1:10 and 11.

Until that moment, Israel will have been without a king except the usurper, antichrist.

“For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days” (Hos. 3:4,5).

As the angels clear the Land from the River Euphrates to the River of Egypt (not the Nile),1 the remnant of Judah shall return first. “Then the remnant of his brethren (the ten tribes) shall return unto the children of Israel.”

What a deliverance! A nation shall be born “in one day.”

“Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing” (Psa. 126:2).

"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. (Narcissus) It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God.

Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (Isa. 35).

Judah shall then become a terror to Egypt.

The kingdom having been set up, Israel shall build and plant, dwelling safely without bars or gates.

The end of the age comes when the harvest, or consumption, will be past. Then a new age commences with Israel as a nation, and the eyes of all shall be toward their Maker.

“And I will encamp about mine house because of the army (King of the North), because of him that passeth by, and because of him that returneth” (Zech. 9:8).

But Asshur shall have designs more copious than simply to be a “rod.” He purposes to take the entire earth under his hand. In order to do this he must have Jerusalem, the prize of all, and the center of the earth. Satan is behind this scheme. In this daring venture, although he gathers the peoples of the nations as fish in a net, Asshur shall be broken, that is, God shall intervene when Jerusalem is attacked for the second time.

Egypt-Assyria-Israel, Peace and the Kingdom

Following the judgment of the great confederacies of the earth, first Babylon, then the Assyrian, all falling together with the image which included many of the peoples of these two great confederacies, the Son of man will take His place as King sitting between the cherubim. He shall come as Melchisedec King and Priest to rule with a rod of iron and dispense blessing as priest far and wide to His willing subjects. God loves to bless and will do so beyond all expectation.

The day of the kingdom is for reward. All of His servants—the church, Israel, the nations, and all who are subject—will be rewarded in the measure in which the heart has been right during the time of serving here. The church, the martyrs, and the Old Testament saints shall have their blessing in the heavens. They shall rule with Christ over the earth. Israel shall be the head and not the tail when the Son of David reigns.1

“Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment” (Isa. 32:1).

“And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places” (Isa. 32:17,18).

The prophet Isaiah shows how the power will be transferred from the antichrist-king to the house of David and to One upon whom will hang all of the GLORY of His Father’s house.

“And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end, Thus saith the LORD GOD; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him” (Ezek. 21:25-27).

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah: And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah.

And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father’s house.

And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father’s house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.

In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and be cut down, and fall; and the burden that was upon it shall be cut off: for the LORD hath spoken it” (Isa. 22:20-25).

The glory will be restored to the house of Jacob.

BABYLON and NINEVEH stood forth as two world principles that vied for the place which belonged to Israel, POWER and GLORY.

The world system of Babylon in all of its varied aspects shall be destroyed, never to rise again. Egypt and Assyria will become tributary to Israel, who once were their captives. Edom shall be dispossessed, and the Philistines shall suffer the same fate as Edom because of the same hatred towards Israel which was never judged. All nations will be removed from the Land.

Egypt-Assyria-Israel, Millennium, The

Israel shall become the Lioness of Jehovah (Ariel), exacting righteousness in the earth and dispensing blessing that “waits not for man.”

No oppressor shall be allowed to trouble Israel again.

When Israel finally becomes the center of blessing for the earth, then Jehovah shall take delight in His people.

Egypt and Assyria shall have a special place among the nations in the kingdom, though they will still be tributary to Israel.

When Abraham came to Canaan, Egypt was a thriving nation able to succor him in the day of famine.

The twelve sons of Jacob were preserved by Egypt in the days of famine, thus maintaining the testimony of which God had made Jacob and his sons depositaries. God has not forgotten what has been done for Him or His people, and everything shall be rewarded.

Except for the rigors imposed upon Israel by the Pharaohs, Israel at times received much help from Egypt. Was not the Christ child sheltered in Egypt from the Roman king?

“Out of Egypt have I called my son” (Matt. 2:15).

After the just retributions, the pleasing results will be seen as Egypt will cry to the Lord, and He will deliver and bless that nation. Then she will worship the true God as Israel, in the last days. How rich is the mercy of God which restores prodigals, whether individual or national.

The reality of conversion shall be evidenced by the pillar set up to the Lord at the border between Egypt and Israel. An altar shall also be set up to the Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt. Some of the cities shall speak the language of Canaan, and the Lord shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will know the Lord. Egypt will share a place with Assyria and Israel under Jehovah.

What a day, when in peace the inhabitants of the nations will sit each under his own vine and under his own fig tree, enjoying the blessings which Jehovah will shower upon him, for “There shall be showers of blessing” (Ezek. 34:26) in that day.

Asshur had been used of God as a “rod” to chasten Israel. Persia, under Cyrus, who ruled the same peoples after Assyria was subdued, showed great favor to Israel in causing the remnant of Judah and Benjamin to return to their Land to build again the temple and walls of Jerusalem.

The land of Assyria proper shall in the end find rich blessing from God through Israel. The three nations, Egypt, Assyria, and Israel shall mingle their gladness under the favor of Jehovah their Redeemer.

“In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians.

In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: Whom the LORD of Hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance” (Isa. 19:23-25).

All wars having ceased, the world subdued to Jehovah and Israel, the full work performed in Mount Zion, the power of Babylon completely removed, enmity gone, brethren dwelling together in unity, the whole world at peace, the King shall be seen in His beauty as He shall appear with His heavenly saints to display them as His to an amazed world.

“The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf; They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like worms of the earth: they shall be afraid of the LORD our God, and shall fear because of thee. Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old” (Mic. 7:16-20).

In reviewing the history, ancient and prophetic, of these three nations we learn the wisdom and goodness of God, as well as His wrath toward His enemies.

Having arrived nearly at the end of the age, we discover this master plan, intricate, time-consuming, sublime. In it the Son of God as Man will be honored as the mighty Deliverer of both His heavenly and earthly people. This deliverance could only come through the shedding of His precious blood in death.

What long-enduring patience is seen on the part of God toward the children of Esau, His everlasting love toward Israel, favor toward Assyria because of their help to Israel in restoring Jerusalem, reward to Egypt for many kind acts.

How the majesty of God shines forth as He closes the age in judgment. No evil is overlooked, no bruised reed or smoking flax is slighted.

Righteousness will be established with a rod; is could not be otherwise. Mercy, in which God delights, will flow like a river. Has His mercy enclosed you so as to give your heart peace? Today all who avail themselves of His mercy by receiving Jesus Christ as Saviour will have a heavenly portion; all who refuse will go down to the pit.

“Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor. 6:2).

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life” (John. 5:24).

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