

The Book of Isaiah

Trusting God More #13

Some of the outlines are taken from Melissa Spoelstra's book, *Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting More*.

Review of the previous Lesson: Chapters 27 & 28 (Leviathan, the Vineyard and drunkenness)

*Read Psalm 138:6, Proverbs 3:34, Proverbs 29:23 and Matthew 23:12.
Today, we will study chapters 29 & 30.*

Chapter 29

What are some warning signs of too much pride? What is the one story that stands out in the Bible that pertains to pride that you recall?

Today's lesson will discuss when the Lord humbles proud Jerusalem. Read 28:1. Did you hear the word, WOE! The word woe was directed to Ariel (the name means the Lion of God). It is often used to symbolize Jerusalem. Notice how many times the word is used in four verses. Clearly, understanding the name Ariel in the context of Jerusalem should show how Jerusalem felt about themselves. Jerusalem was proud.

Read 2-4. How does it make you feel to hear what God said what He was going to do to Jerusalem? God promises four "I Will" statements in two verses.

I will _____

I will _____

I will _____

I will _____

Then, in verses 5-8, God promises to deliver humbled Jerusalem.

Does this make sense to you? Does this sound like a paradox to you? Why or why not? God promised to humble Israel. Afterwards, God promises to punish their foes. God said, "I will scatter them like dust."

Do you recognize any of this going on in 2024? In what ways, could God be humbling us? In what ways, could God be punishing us?

Discuss: Spiritual blindness

God is saying Jerusalem's blindness has made them spiritually blind and drunk. What's self-awareness? What is wrong when we can't see ourselves?

Read verses 9-10.

Can we be productive in a state of spiritual drunkenness?

Read Romans 13:11. What time is it? Do we need to be asleep or awake?

Chapter 30 is rebuke for those in Judah who looked to Egypt for deliverance. What does "put their trust in Egypt" mean?

How does it make God feel when we trust in others besides Him?
Revisit Exodus 20:3a. *This is important!*

In looking to Egypt, Judah forsook God. It's clear that God wants to be our sole source! He wants us to look to Him! From the text we learn, God wants us to look to Him before we make plans, look to Him for counsel and look to Him for strength. He makes it plain!

Discussion: What are some other ways we look to others rather than God?

Discussion: Hear God say, "The strength of Pharaoh shall be your shame!" The strength of Egypt shall be your humiliation!"

Read 6-7 where God describes the burden against Judah for their trust in Egypt.

Read 8-11 God records Judah rejection on tablet!

Do you think God's recorded words concerning their deeds can be compared to Revelation 20:12 (emphasis on their deeds)? Read 12-14...Because you despise this word.... (15) was brought low as described.

What do we learn from Judah?