Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—Coming Destruction of Judah (740t BC)

Isaiah 5

The Song of the Vineyard

1 Let me sing now for my well-beloved

A song of my beloved concerning His vineyard.

My well-beloved had a vineyard on a fertile hill.

2 He dug it all around, removed its stones,

And planted it with the choicest vine.

And He built a tower in the middle of it

And also hewed out a wine vat in it:

Then He expected it to produce good grapes,

But it produced *only* worthless ones.

3 "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,

Judge between Me and My vineyard.

4 "What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it?

Why, when I expected it to produce good grapes did it produce worthless ones?

5 "So now let Me tell you what I am going to do to My vineyard:

I will remove its hedge and it will be consumed;

I will break down its wall and it will become trampled ground.

6 "I will lay it waste;

It will not be pruned or hoed,

But briars and thorns will come up.

I will also charge the clouds to rain no rain on it."

7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel

And the men of Judah His delightful plant.

Thus He looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed;

For righteousness, but behold, a cry of distress.

Woe Oracles against the Wicked

8 Woe to those who add house to house and join field to field,

Until there is no more room,

So that you have to live alone in the midst of the land!

9 In my ears the LORD of hosts has sworn,

"Surely, many houses shall become desolate,

Even great and fine ones, without occupants.

10 "For ten acres of vineyard will yield only one bath of wine,

And a homer of seed will yield but an ephah of grain."

11 Woe to those who rise early in the morning that they may pursue strong drink,

Who stay up late in the evening that wine may inflame them!

12 Their banquets are accompanied by lyre and harp, by tambourine and flute, and by wine;

But they do not pay attention to the deeds of the LORD,

Nor do they consider the work of His hands.

13 Therefore My people go into exile for their lack of knowledge;

And their honorable men are famished,

And their multitude is parched with thirst.

14 Therefore Sheol has enlarged its throat and opened its mouth without measure;

And Jerusalem's splendor, her multitude, her din of revelry and the jubilant within her, descend into it.

15 So the common man will be humbled and the man of importance abased,

The eyes of the proud also will be abased.

16 But the LORD of hosts will be exalted in judgment,

And the holy God will show Himself holy in righteousness.

17 Then the lambs will graze as in their pasture,

And strangers will eat in the waste places of the wealthy.

18 Woe to those who drag iniquity with the cords of falsehood,

And sin as if with cart ropes;

19 Who say, "Let Him make speed, let Him hasten His work, that we may see it;

And let the purpose of the Holy One of Israel draw near

And come to pass, that we may know it!"

20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;

Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness;

Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

21 Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes

And clever in their own sight!

22 Woe to those who are heroes in drinking wine

And valiant men in mixing strong drink,

23 Who justify the wicked for a bribe,

And take away the rights of the ones who are in the right!

24 Therefore, as a tongue of fire consumes stubble

And dry grass collapses into the flame,

So their root will become like rot and their blossom blow away as dust;

For they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts

And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

25 On this account the anger of the LORD has burned against His people,

And He has stretched out His hand against them and struck them down.

And the mountains quaked, and their corpses lay like refuse in the middle of the streets.

For all this His anger is not spent,

But His hand is still stretched out.

An Army's Destruction of Judah

26 He will also lift up a standard to the distant nation,

And will whistle for it from the ends of the earth;

And behold, it will come with speed swiftly.

27 No one in it is weary or stumbles,

None slumbers or sleeps;

Nor is the belt at its waist undone,

Nor its sandal strap broken.

28 Its arrows are sharp and all its bows are bent;

The hoofs of its horses seem like flint and its *chariot* wheels like a whirlwind.

29 Its roaring is like a lioness, and it roars like young lions;

It growls as it seizes the prey

And carries it off with no one to deliver it.

30 And it will growl over it in that day like the roaring of the sea.

If one looks to the land, behold, there is darkness and distress:

Even the light is darkened by its clouds.

The Death of Uzziah [Judah] (740t BC)	
2 Kings 15:6–7	2 Chronicles 26:22–23
6 Now the rest of the acts of Azariah	22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah,
and all that he did,	first to last,
	the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amoz, has written.
are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles	
of the Kings of Judah?	
7 And Azariah slept with his fathers,	23 So Uzziah slept with his fathers,
and they buried him with his fathers	and they buried him with his fathers
in the city of David,	
	in the field of the grave which belonged to the kings,
	for they said, "He is a leper."
and Jotham his son became king in his place.	And Jotham his son became king in his place.

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—A Vision of Yahweh (740t BC)

Isaiah 6

A Vision of the Holy King

- 1 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.
- 2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.
- 3 And one called out to another and said,

"Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

The Prophet's Purification

5 Then I said,

"Woe is me, for I am ruined!

Because I am a man of unclean lips,

And I live among a people of unclean lips;

For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs.

7 He touched my mouth with it and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven."

A Hardening Message for a Calloused Audience

- 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
- 9 He said, "Go, and tell this people:

'Keep on listening, but do not perceive;

Keep on looking, but do not understand.'

10 "Render the hearts of this people insensitive,

Their ears dull,

And their eyes dim,

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,

Hear with their ears,

Understand with their hearts,

And return and be healed." [Matt 13:13-15; John 12:39-41]

Hope in the Midst of Destruction

11 Then I said, "Lord, how long?" And He answered,

"Until cities are devastated and without inhabitant,

Houses are without people

And the land is utterly desolate,

12 "The LORD has removed men far away,

And the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.

13 "Yet there will be a tenth portion in it,

And it will again be subject to burning,

Like a terebinth or an oak

Whose stump remains when it is felled.

The holy seed is its stump."

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