

## Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—Book of Woes: Assyria (c. 704–702 BC)

## Isaiah 33

**Woe to Assyria**

- 1 Woe to you, O destroyer,  
While you were not destroyed;  
And he who is treacherous, while *others* did not deal treacherously with him.  
As soon as you finish destroying, you will be destroyed;  
As soon as you cease to deal treacherously, *others* will deal treacherously with you.
- 2 O LORD, be gracious to us; we have waited for You.  
Be their strength every morning,  
Our salvation also in the time of distress.
- 3 At the sound of the tumult peoples flee;  
At the lifting up of Yourself nations disperse.
- 4 Your spoil is gathered *as* the caterpillar gathers;  
As locusts rushing about men rush about on it.
- 5 The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on high;  
He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness.
- 6 And He will be the stability of your times,  
A wealth of salvation, wisdom and knowledge;  
The fear of the LORD is his treasure.
- 7 Behold, their brave men cry in the streets,  
The ambassadors of peace weep bitterly.
- 8 The highways are desolate, the traveler has ceased,  
He has broken the covenant, he has despised the cities,  
He has no regard for man.
- 9 The land mourns *and* pines away,  
Lebanon is shamed *and* withers;  
Sharon is like a desert plain,  
And Bashan and Carmel lose *their foliage*.
- 10 “Now I will arise,” says the LORD,  
“Now I will be exalted, now I will be lifted up.
- 11 “You have conceived chaff, you will give birth to stubble;  
My breath will consume you like a fire.
- 12 “The peoples will be burned to lime,  
Like cut thorns which are burned in the fire.
- 13 “You who are far away, hear what I have done;  
And you who are near, acknowledge My might.”
- 14 Sinners in Zion are terrified;  
Trembling has seized the godless.  
“Who among us can live with the consuming fire?  
Who among us can live with continual burning?”
- 15 He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity,  
He who rejects unjust gain  
And shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe;  
He who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed  
And shuts his eyes from looking upon evil;
- 16 He will dwell on the heights,  
His refuge will be the impregnable rock;

His bread will be given *him*,  
His water will be sure.

### The Reign of the Messiah in Zion

- 17 Your eyes will see the King in His beauty;  
They will behold a far-distant land.
- 18 Your heart will meditate on terror:  
“Where is he who counts?  
Where is he who weighs?  
Where is he who counts the towers?”
- 19 You will no longer see a fierce people,  
A people of unintelligible speech which no one comprehends,  
Of a stammering tongue which no one understands.
- 20 Look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts;  
Your eyes will see Jerusalem, an undisturbed habitation,  
A tent which will not be folded;  
Its stakes will never be pulled up,  
Nor any of its cords be torn apart.
- 21 But there the majestic *One*, the LORD, will be for us  
A place of rivers *and* wide canals  
On which no boat with oars will go,  
And on which no mighty ship will pass—
- 22 For the LORD is our judge,  
The LORD is our lawgiver,  
The LORD is our king;  
He will save us—
- 23 Your tackle hangs slack;  
It cannot hold the base of its mast firmly,  
Nor spread out the sail.  
Then the prey of an abundant spoil will be divided;  
The lame will take the plunder.
- 24 And no resident will say, “I am sick”;  
The people who dwell there will be forgiven *their* iniquity.

## Isaiah’s Prophecy to Judah—God’s Wrath against the Nations (c. 704–702 BC)

### Isaiah 34

#### Eschatological Judgment

- 1 Draw near, O nations, to hear; and listen, O peoples!  
Let the earth and all it contains hear, and the world and all that springs from it.
- 2 For the LORD’s indignation is against all the nations,  
And *His* wrath against all their armies;  
He has utterly destroyed them,  
He has given them over to slaughter.
- 3 So their slain will be thrown out,  
And their corpses will give off their stench,  
And the mountains will be drenched with their blood.
- 4 And all the host of heaven will wear away,  
And the sky will be rolled up like a scroll;

All their hosts will also wither away  
As a leaf withers from the vine,  
Or as *one* withers from the fig tree. [[Matt 24:29](#); [Mark 13:25](#); [Luke 21:26](#)]

### **Edom Singled Out as an Example of God's Judgment**

- 5 For My sword is satiated in heaven,  
Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom  
And upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction.
- 6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood,  
It is sated with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats,  
With the fat of the kidneys of rams.  
For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah  
And a great slaughter in the land of Edom.
- 7 Wild oxen will also fall with them  
And young bulls with strong ones;  
Thus their land will be soaked with blood,  
And their dust become greasy with fat.
- 8 For the LORD has a day of vengeance,  
A year of recompense for the cause of Zion.
- 9 Its streams will be turned into pitch,  
And its loose earth into brimstone,  
And its land will become burning pitch.
- 10 It will not be quenched night or day;  
Its smoke will go up forever.  
From generation to generation it will be desolate;  
None will pass through it forever and ever.
- 11 But pelican and hedgehog will possess it,  
And owl and raven will dwell in it;  
And He will stretch over it the line of desolation  
And the plumb line of emptiness.
- 12 Its nobles—there is no one there  
*Whom* they may proclaim king—  
And all its princes will be nothing.
- 13 Thorns will come up in its fortified towers,  
Nettles and thistles in its fortified cities;  
It will also be a haunt of jackals  
*And* an abode of ostriches.
- 14 The desert creatures will meet with the wolves,  
The hairy goat also will cry to its kind;  
Yes, the night monster will settle there  
And will find herself a resting place.
- 15 The tree snake will make its nest and lay *eggs* there,  
And it will hatch and gather *them* under its protection.  
Yes, the hawks will be gathered there,  
Every one with its kind.

16 Seek from the book of the LORD, and read:

Not one of these will be missing;

None will lack its mate.  
 For His mouth has commanded,  
 And His Spirit has gathered them.  
 17 He has cast the lot for them,  
 And His hand has divided it to them by line.  
 They shall possess it forever;  
 From generation to generation they will dwell in it.

### Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—God's Glory Will Transform Zion (c. 704–702 BC)

#### Isaiah 35

1 The wilderness and the desert will be glad,  
 And the Arabah will rejoice and blossom;  
 Like the crocus  
 2 It will blossom profusely  
 And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy.  
 The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,  
 The majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
 They will see the glory of the LORD,  
 The majesty of our God.  
 3 Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen the feeble. [cf. [Heb 12:12](#)]  
 4 Say to those with anxious heart,  
 "Take courage, fear not.  
 Behold, your God will come *with* vengeance;  
 The recompense of God will come,  
 But He will save you."  
 5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened  
 And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.  
 6 Then the lame will leap like a deer,  
 And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy.  
 For waters will break forth in the wilderness  
 And streams in the Arabah.  
 7 The scorched land will become a pool  
 And the thirsty ground springs of water;  
 In the haunt of jackals, its resting place,  
 Grass *becomes* reeds and rushes.  
 8 A highway will be there, a roadway,  
 And it will be called the Highway of Holiness.  
 The unclean will not travel on it,  
 But it *will* be for him who walks *that way*,  
 And fools will not wander *on it*.  
 9 No lion will be there,  
 Nor will any vicious beast go up on it;  
 These will not be found there.  
 But the redeemed will walk *there*,  
 10 And the ransomed of the LORD will return  
 And come with joyful shouting to Zion,  
 With everlasting joy upon their heads.  
 They will find gladness and joy,

And sorrow and sighing will flee away.

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