

18 - BABYLON & ISRAEL (ISAIAH 46:1-48:22)

I. The Lord's Dominance Over Babylon (Isaiah 46:1-47:15)

A. Greater Than Babylon's Gods (Isaiah 46:1-13)

- The Babylonian gods could not relieve the burdens on Babylon.
- They are powerless as Babylon goes into captivity.
- The Lord calls Israel to remember that he was one who sustained them.
- The gods of gold and silver are nothing in comparison to the Lord.
- Those gods cannot hear and will not deliver anyone from trouble.
- The Babylonians are to remember that God is the only god.
- The Lord will call one from the east to execute his judgment.
- The Babylonians are to listen to the Lord as he brings his righteousness near.
- This will result in salvation for Israel.

B. The Fall of Babylon (Isaiah 47:1-15)

- Babylon will become a humble servant in the dust when she is conquered.
- They will become servants of the conquerors and shamed by their nakedness.
- Israel will respond by proclaiming the Lord of Hosts as the Holy One of Israel.
- Babylon will no longer be called great.
- The Lord had used Babylon to punish Judah, but she had been ruthless.
- Babylon who boasted of her greatness will become childless and a widow in one day.
- Babylon boasted in its knowledge but they will not know from where judgment will fall.
- The Lord encourages Babylon to continue in its sorcery, but it will not help them.
- Babylon's religious leaders cannot save themselves, therefore Babylon cannot be saved.

II. The Exhortation for Israel (Isaiah 48:1-22)

A. The Call to Remember (Isaiah 48:1-11)

The Judgment and Blessing of God – A Study in the Book of Isaiah

- The Lord reminds Israel of its hypocrisy.
- The Lord tells them that he prophesied concerning their captivity.
- Because of their treachery and rebelliousness, Israel has become spiritually insensitive.
- The Lord will delay his judgment for his sake in order that Israel may return.

B. God's Sovereignty (Isaiah 48:12-19)

- The Lord calls Israel to hear that he is eternal and the only God.
- The Lord will call one to bring his judgment on Babylon.
- The Lord has been guiding Israel through his law, but Israel did not listen.
- Had they listened, they would not have experienced the exile and watch their children killed.

C. The Call to Flee Babylon (Isaiah 48:20-22)

- The Lord calls Israel to flee Babylon.
- The Lord would provide for them as he did in the wilderness with Moses.
- The Lord proclaims that there is no peace for the wicked.