

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

6 - THE NORTHERN KINGDOM & ASSYRIA (ISAIAH 9:8-12:6)

I. The Coming Exile (Isaiah 9:8-10:4)

A. The judgment of the Northern Kingdom (Isaiah 9:8-17)

- Isaiah records that God has sent judgment against prideful Israel.
- In spite of hardship, Israel boasted that it could rebuild itself.
- The Lord declares that Israel will be given over to its enemies.
- Isaiah laments that the nation will not turn back to God who is punishing them.
- Severe judgment will fall on everyone in the nation, both the rich and the poor.

B. Their wickedness described (Isaiah 9:18-21)

- The nation's wickedness is described as a fire that is consuming them.
- They will not only be judged by God and their enemies, but from within.
- They will destroy themselves.

C. The coming disaster (Isaiah 10:1-4)

- Isaiah pronounces a woe on the nation's leaders for six sins.
 1. For making unjust laws
 2. For issuing oppressive decrees.
 3. Taking away justice
 4. Depriving the poor of their rights
 5. Hurting the widows
 6. Robbing the orphans
- The nation will be destroyed by a power that comes from afar.

II. The Fall of the Assyrian Empire (Isaiah 10:5-34)

A. A tool in God's hands (Isaiah 10:5-11)

- God used Assyria as a rod to punish Israel.

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- Even though God used her as a tool, He was not pleased with Assyria.
- Assyria boasted that its idols were greater than the God of Israel.

B. Their punishment (Isaiah 10:12-34)

- God will punish Assyria for its arrogance and pride.
- God promises that a remnant will remain and return to the land.
- God assures his readers that the burden of Assyria will be lifted from them.
- The Lord will defeat the Assyrians.

III. The Coming Kingdom (Isaiah 11:1-12:6)

A. The descendent of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1-9)

- A ruler will come forth from the line of Jesse.
- He will be empowered by the Holy Spirit and characterized by the fear of the Lord.
- He will judge the nations.
- His kingdom will be marked by peace and harmony among all creation.

B. The Banner to His People (Isaiah 11:10-16)

- The Messiah will serve as the rallying point for all peoples.
- He will gather all of Israel and Judah from the farthest points of the world.

C. Words of Rejoicing (Isaiah 12:1-6)

- God will be praised because his anger will be turned away from Israel.
- The remnant will remind themselves concerning the greatness of God.