

# ISAIAH

## Overview of Chapters 13-21

The Nation	The Burden	The Result
<b>Babylon (13)</b>	God issues a call to arms for his men to execute his wrath against the proud and conceited.	God's will is done. The inhabitants flee like the roe from the hunter but safety is not obtained. The final destruction of Babylon is described in vv. 19-21. It was fulfilled over a number of years. Cyrus left the walls standing, but they were destroyed in 518 B.C. Then Xerxes destroyed its temple.
<b>Babylon and Philistia (14)</b>	Isaiah is taken to Babylon's final fall. It fell like the day-star of the morning. The rod that persecuted the Philistines was removed, but the rod was a serpent that would give rise to an adder.	The fall causes rejoicing that God's work was done. For Babylon to arise Assyria must fall and God announces that it will be done according to his purpose. Philistia was Israel's ancient enemy. Philistia's destruction will occur over many years. It is doomed to be conquered over and over but destroyed it shall be.
<b>Moab 1 (15)</b>	The armed men cry out in defeat and despair and seek refuge in Edom.	They cry out because the land is desolate and their waters run with blood. Worse yet, Moab's judgment is not over.
<b>Moab 2 (16)</b>	Moab rejected refuge offered in the form of a Messianic prophecy. As a result it will be punished for its pride.	What Moab can and will do is to join those who wail and mourn. The devastation is so great that even Isaiah weeps for Moab. Moab will pray to its gods until they are weary but they will not prevail.
<b>Damascus (17)</b>	Damascus will lose and never recover the importance that she had and enjoyed. Ephraim forgot God, turned to idolatry, and joined a heathen nation to attack Judah.	Along with Damascus, Ephraim will fall. Ephraim will lose its fortress, and Damascus will lose its kingdom. Their plot to ruin others led to their own destruction. It came to pass under Tigleth-pileser. There is one last word for Assyria. It will come like the sea and flee like chaff blown by a mountain wind.

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## Continued from Front Side...

<b>The Nation</b>	<b>The Burden</b>	<b>The Result</b>
<b>Ethiopia (18)</b>	The world is called to see and hear. God will observe from his throne. The destruction will be so complete that the birds and beast will feast upon the dead during both summer and winter.	That God simply observes may seem as indifference, but before the Assyrians have garnered their harvest Jehovah will destroy the threatening enemy. Assyria boasted of its greatness, but not even the greatest of countries is a match for Jehovah.
<b>Egypt (19)</b>	Jehovah comes to judge Egypt, striking fear into the hearts of the Egyptians and their false gods.	Egypt will be defeated and given over to a cruel lord and fierce king. It will be divined by internal strife, its spirit will fail, and its counsel destroyed. There will be natural and economic disaster. All is not lost. Egypt and Assyria shall be among the nations that flow unto Zion (2:2-4). God will provide the highway.
<b>Egypt and Ethiopia (20)</b>	Judah trusted Ethiopia and Egypt. Isaiah's message is that neither shall be around or able to assist Judah.	Judah confessed that it had relied on Egypt and Ethiopia for help in retaining its glory. Upon its failure they had one question—how shall we escape? The arm of flesh failed them.
<b>Babylon, Dumah (Edom), and Arabia (21)</b>	Babylon, a destroyer of nations, would itself be destroyed. It would come from Elam and Media aligned with Assyria or Cyrus. Edom will have nights and become a Dumah (deep utter silence). Any morning will be followed quickly by another night. The Arabians would lose their military and their economy.	Babylon's leaders are called to prepare for battle but they chose debauchery. Babylon was invaded again and again until in 539 Cyrus brought the Babylonian Empire to an end. The decline accelerated with the invasion of Alexander the Great. Dumah suffered conqueror after conqueror—the Assyrian followed by the Chaldean followed by the Persian followed by the Grecian followed by the Roman. In the time prophesied, Arabia's freedom, military strength, numbers, and wealth (its glory) would all have disappeared.

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