

The Rulers of the Nations and the Authority of the Devil

Isaiah 14:1-23

I. Who is the King of Babylon?

Isa. 13:19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the splendor and pomp of the Chaldeans, will be like Sodom and Gomorrah when God overthrew them.

Isa. 14:1-2 For the LORD will have compassion on Jacob and will again choose Israel, and will set them in their own land, and sojourners will join them and will attach themselves to the house of Jacob. ²And the peoples will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them in the LORD's land as male and female slaves. They will take captive those who were their captors, and rule over those who oppressed them.

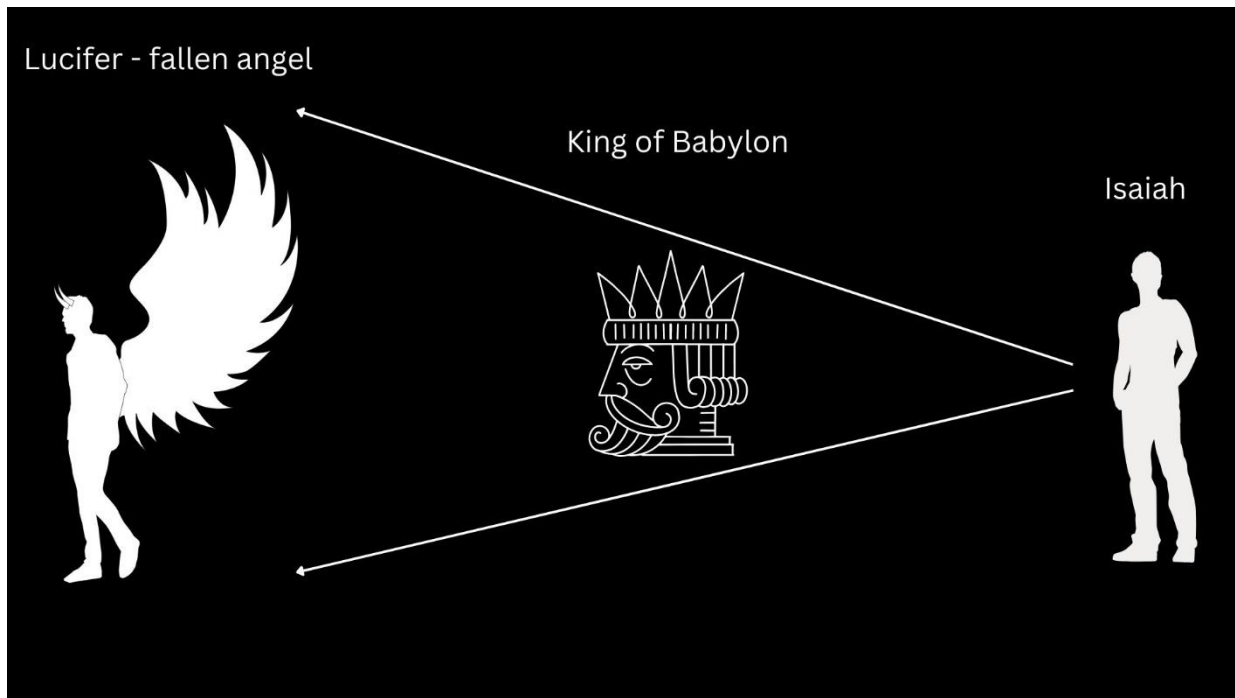
Isa. 14:3 When the LORD has **given you rest** from your pain and turmoil and the hard service with which you were made to serve,

Rev. 17:1-2 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, ²with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk.”

Rev. 17:3-5 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. ⁴The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. ⁵And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: “**Babylon the great**, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations.”

Isa. 14:12-14 “How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! ¹³You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’

Ezek. 28:13-15 You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle; and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings. On the day that you were created they were prepared. ¹⁴You were an anointed guardian cherub. I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked. ¹⁵You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you.



II. What's Wrong with the Rulers of the Nations?

Ro. 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval,

Eph. 6:11-12 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Matthew 4:8-10 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."

A. Pride

Isa. 14:13-14 You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'

Isa. 14:13-14 You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'

Isa. 14:11 Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, the sound of your harps; maggots are laid as a bed beneath you, and worms are your covers.

Jer. 50:31-32 “Behold, I am against you, O **proud** one, declares the Lord GOD of hosts, for your day has come, the time when I will punish you.³² The **proud** one shall stumble and fall, with none to raise him up, and I will kindle a fire in his cities, and it will devour all that is around him.

De. 17:18-19 “And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests.¹⁹ And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them,

De. 17:20 **that his heart may not be lifted up** above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel. his brethren, and that he should not deviate from the law, either to the right or to the left, that he and his sons may abide long days in his kingdom in the midst of Israel.

B. Falsehood

Ezek. 28:15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till **unrighteousness** was found in you.

Micah 6:11-13 Shall I acquit the man with wicked scales and with a bag of deceitful weights?¹² Your rich men are full of violence; your inhabitants speak lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.¹³ Therefore I strike you with a grievous blow, making you desolate because of your sins.

Proverbs 16:12 It is an abomination to kings to do evil, for **the throne is established by righteousness**.

Proverbs 29:4 **By justice a king builds up the land**, but he who exacts gifts tears it down.

Proverbs 29:14 If a king **faithfully judges the poor**, his throne will be established forever.

C. Wickedness

Rev. 17:1-2 И пришел один из семи Ангелов, имеющих семь чаш, и, говоря со мною, сказал мне: подойди, я покажу тебе суд над великою блудницею, сидящею на водах многих;² с нею блудодействовали цари земные, **и вином ее блудодеяния упивались живущие на земле.**

Rev. 17:3-5 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.⁴ The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand **a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality.**⁵ And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: “Babylon the great, **mother of prostitutes and of earth’s abominations.**”

Isa. 14:4-5 you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon: “How the oppressor has ceased, the insolent fury ceased!⁵ The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of rulers,

III. What Does the Future Hold for Earthly Rulers?

Isa. 14:9-11 Sheol beneath is stirred up to meet you when you come; it rouses the shades to greet you, all who were leaders of the earth; it raises from their thrones all who were kings of the nations. ¹⁰ All of them will answer and say to you: 'You too have become as weak as we! You have become like us!' ¹¹ Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, the sound of your harps; maggots are laid as a bed beneath you, and worms are your covers.

Rev. 17:12-14 And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

1 Cor. 15:22-25 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.