

# Isaiah 30-32 – 21 December 2023

## “But They Look Not Unto Me”

### Introduction

- \*We just began Isaiah’s Section 4 of 8 (Chap 28-35)
    - \*it’s a ‘Series of Woes & Blessings’
  - \*Chap 28-29 spoke to Israel & Judah about their attempt at avoiding reality
  - \*In Chap 30-32, God wants them to accepting the working of His Holy Spirit in their lives
  - \*Threatened by Assyria, they’re seeking help from Egypt – “*But they look not unto God*”
  - \*What does God want more than anything?
    - \*Relationship with you – to walk w/ you daily
  - \*In John 16 (Read vs 8), Jesus prepared His disciples for His leaving – He wanted them to know He’s not leaving them alone – but He’s sending the Holy Spirit
- Today, we’ll see 3 activities of the Holy Spirit in our lives...if we’ll let Him**

# #1: The Holy Spirit protects & covers our shame (Chap 30:1-17)

Read Chap 30:1-2

1. Assyrians are attacking from east
2. In their need they seek another instead of God
3. It's not about seeking Egypt, but about not seeking God their Father

Read Vs 3-7

1. Israel sent peace negotiators to these Egyptian cities with loads of riches from Israel
2. Egypt will only add further shame to Israel
  - a. Like Prodigal Son going out & doing his own thing only added shame
3. What a shame that Israel gave away all their worth (and dignity) and will get nothing in return

Read Vs 8-11

1. God wanted their rebellion recorded in a book
  - a. Not so He could later throw it in their face
  - b. But so the next time they would trust Him

2. Notice Israel only wanted pleasant things
  - a. Christians don't seek pleasant things; we seek godly things - sometimes that's pleasant

Read Vs 12-14

1. Rebellion in not walking w/ the Lord isn't always visibly showing consequences, but when circumstances come, the weaknesses are exposed
  - a. Rebel against marriage, soon...you're alone
  - b. Rebel against sexual morality, soon trouble
  - c. Rebel against church, soon...no support
  - d. In the name of 'freedom' just bringing shame

Read Vs 15-17

1. The call of God is to repent & rest in Him, not to flee and trust in man's work
  - a. Returning to God involves trusting Him in what seems like a hard situation (in Jerusalem)
  - b. Fleeing to Egypt involves trusting man in what seems like an easy situation (in Egypt)
  - c. But we walk by faith in God, not by sight

## #2: The Holy Spirit provides supernatural help (Chap 30:18-31:9)

Read Chap 30:18-19

1. God waiting thru sin, give us a chance to see the great extent of His great **grace**
  - a. Little sin gives little realization of our need
  - b. Read Rom 5:20 – God’s grace is plenteous
  - c. Read Luke 7:47 – Forgiven much, love much
2. Is there a Prodigal in your life, it’s just building up the expected end of them loving Jesus much

Read Vs 20-21

1. God’s looking to extent His **guidance** to them

Read Vs 22

1. God’s looking to extent His **godliness** to them

Read Vs 23-26

1. God’s looking to extent His **goodness** to them
2. This is a picture of the party when the Prodigal Son returns, not that it’s earned but that it’s given

## Read Vs 27-29

1. God's looking to extent His *gladness* to them
2. Read I John 4:17 – Justice upon enemies will be right, rejoicing the soul

## Read Vs 30-33

1. God will show His glory over the King of Assyria that's threatening them
2. In vs 33 Tophet is *the Valley of Hinnom* where waste was burned (In Greek is Gehenna or hell)
  - a. Idea: Assyria & king are brought to hell

## Read Vs 1

1. There are 2 evils here (Read Jer 2:13)

## Read Vs 2-3

1. Yet God also is wise
  - a. Not some crazy outlandish thing to trust God
  - b. He's given excellent reasons to trust Him
  - c. The powers of the spiritual realm (God) are much higher than anything of this earth

Read Vs 4-5

1. The Lord will defend Jerusalem, for His name is invested there

Read Vs 6-9

1. The call is to turn their allegiance back to God
2. The promise of that God WILL defeat Assyria
  - a. Not in war w/ sword of man, but w/ angel

### **#3: The Holy Spirit provides new life from expected death (Chap 32:1-20)**

Read Chap 32:1-4

1. You can say this is written of Judah's King Hezekiah after the deliverance from Assyria
2. But this will be ultimately & perfectly fulfilled in Jesus Christ as He rules in the Kingdom
3. The king is the refuge of resources & the maturer of men – only improves man's state

Read Vs 5-8

1. The vile person will be seen for what they are

- a. Their vile rebellion will be shown
  - b. They'll no longer be enriched by their craft
2. Also, cruel or *scoundrel* evil comes to an end
  3. But from vs 8, generous will stand in the end

### Read Vs 9-11

1. This isn't the time to live carefree w/ indulgence but to be attentive to the Lord's desires
2. These women could be a powerful example to the men who are trusting in Egypt

### Read Vs 12-14

1. Oh, the deliverance is coming, but there's a time of struggle with the Assyrians first

### Read Vs 15

1. Solution is always to ask God for outpouring of His Spirit to overflow the banks of our lives
2. When the Spirit of God is present the dry & dead become alive again
3. Look in vs 16-20 of the effects of the Spirit of God in someone's life...

Read Vs 16-20

1. There is justice, peace and assurance
2. Better is one day with God's spirit than 1,000 days of striving for justice & peace

## Conclusion

Let it not be said of us that we, "look not unto God"

- 1. Let us look to the Holy Spirit to protect & cover our shame**
  - a. Man's help is fickle but God's help is strong and sure
- 2. Let us look to the Holy Spirit to provide supernatural help in times of trouble**
  - a. Man's help is limited but God's help shelters and brings peace in the storms of life
- 3. Let us look to the Holy Spirit to provide new life in the face of sure death**
  - a. If the rebel but turns to God, He is gracious to save and forgive and bring eternal life