



The Book of ISAIAH

Chapters 22 – 25

“Jerusalem, Tyre, Apocalypse & Kingdom Age!”

> CHAPTER 22 - “WOE TO JERUSALEM!”

(v1-14) “*Valley of Visions*” is speaking of Jerusalem; God delivers Jerusalem from the Assyrian invasion and the people rejoiced, but God says they should be repenting from their sins. In 586 B.C. the Babylonians will come and take the city and the people captive, verse 11 unveils their true lack of repentance.

(v15-25) **Who is Shebna?** - *Shebna* a high official in the court of Hezekiah, king of Judah (2 Kings 18:18,26; *Shebna*, RSV; 18:37; 19:2; 36:3,11,22; 37:2). *Shebna* is described as a scribe (NKJV, NASB), a secretary (NIV, RSV), and an adjutant-general (NEB), probably indicating he held an office similar to secretary of state. *Shebna* was one of three ambassadors who represented Hezekiah before the messengers of Sennacherib, king of Assyria, whose army was besieging Jerusalem. As the administrator of Hezekiah's palace, *Shebna* was a man of great influence. But the prophet *Isaiah* predicted he would fall from power and die as an outcast because of his pride (Isa 22:15-25). (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

- **Who is Eliakim?** *ELIAKIM* (*God is setting up*) - *Hilkiah's* son, over Hezekiah's household (Isa 36:3). As Joseph over Pharaoh's palace, *Azrikam* "governor of Ahaz' house" (2 Chron 28:7); chamberlain, treasurer, prefect of the palace (Gen 41:40), chief minister. Successor of *Shebna*, whose deposition for his pride was foretold (Isa 22:15-20). Elevated at the time of the Assyrian invasion as the one most adapted to meet such a crisis. Same as *Azariah* son of *Hilkiah* (1 Chron 6:13); the same man often bearing two names (*Kimchi*). God calls him "My servant": a pious patriot (compare 2 Kings 18:37; 19:1-5). A "father to (counseling, befriending, and defending) the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the inhabitants of Judah." Type of Messiah: "the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder (the key hung from the kerchief on the shoulder as emblem of his office, or figuratively for sustaining the government on his shoulder); so he shall open and none shall shut; and he shall shut and none shall open;" i.e., all access to the royal house shall be through him. Antotypically, "the government shall be upon Messiah's shoulder" (Isa 9:6; 22:22); He shuts or opens at will the access to the heavenly mansion (Rev 3:7), He has the keys also of hell (the grave) and death (Rev 1:18). As *Eliakim* supplanted *Shebna*, so Christ the Heir of David's throne shall supplant all the stewards who abuse their trust in God's spiritual house, the church and the world (hereafter to become coextensive with the church): Heb 3:2-6. (from Fausset's Bible Dictionary)

> CHAPTER 23 - “THE BURDEN AGAINST TYRE!”

(v1-14) **Judgment of the great commercial port city, Tyre.**

- **Insight: Tyre** - A Phoenician seaport on the Mediterranean Sea, located about 35 mi. N of Mt. Carmel and 28 mi. W of Mt. Hermon, Tyre supplied lumber for King Solomon's temple (1Ki 5:1, 7-12) and sailors for his navy (1Ki 9:26, 27). **ships of Tarshish** - Tarshish was most likely in Spain, so "ships of Tarshish" were large trading vessels capable of making distant voyages on the open sea all the way to the port of Tyre. The OT refers to them frequently (2:16; 60:9; 1Ki 10:22; 22:48; Ps 48:7; Eze 27:25; Jon 1:3). **Destroyed** - Tyre was under siege 5 times between this prophecy and 332 B.C. Only the last of these attacks (in 332 B.C., by Alexander the Great) completely leveled and subdued the city. Ezekiel prophesied this destruction in Eze 26:3-27:36. **without house or harbor** - Weary from their long, difficult journey, sailors would find no customary haven of rest upon arrival at their destination, Tyre. **Cyprus** - Upon reaching this island in the eastern Mediterranean, the seamen would

learn of Tyre's overthrow. *Sidon* was the other important Phoenician seaport, along with Tyre. Here it represented the rest of Phoenicia as reflecting the country's response to Tyre's overthrow.¹

(v15) Judgment by Babylon (70 years)

(v17-18) Judgment by Alexander the Great (Greece)

- The next 4 chapters give praise to God for His future victory over all enemies and the final deliverance of Israel in the Day of the Lord. The judgments in this chapter (24) look forward to the tribulation as described in Rev 6 – 19.

> CHAPTER 24 - "ISAIAH'S APOCALYPSE!"

(v1-4) All under judgment!

(v5) The world & the Antichrist blaspheme God! – 2 Thessalonians 2

(v6-13) More judgment!

(v14-16) A remnant saved!

(v17-23) Disasters! Earth & Sky! – Matthew 24

(verse 18 – Tremendous earthquakes will come during the tribulation (Mt 24:7; Rev 6:12, 14; 8:5; 11:19; 16:18)

> CHAPTER 25 - "THE KINGDOM AGE!"

(v1-7) God's victory over Israel's enemies!

(v8-9) God's great salvation!

(v10-12) Mount Zion restored!

¹MacArthur, John: *MacArthur Study Bible NASB*. Thomas Nelson Publishers; Nashville, TN, 2006; 2008, S. Is 23:1-3