

**ISAIAH**  
**Chapters 13-23**

**"Nine Prophetic Warnings Against the Heathen Nations Surrounding Israel"**

Beginning with Babylon:

"The leading center of politics and the leading land power."

Ending with Tyre:

"The center of commerce and the leading sea power."

Nations:

1 - Babylon Ch. 13 & 14

2 – Philistia Ch. 14

3 – Moab Ch. 15 & 16

4 – Damascus Ch. 17 & 18

5 – Egypt & Cush Ch. 19 & 20

6 – Babylon, Elam & Media Ch. 21

7 – Dumah Ch. 21

8 – Arabia & Kir Ch. 21

(Arena of Spectacles/Valley of Gehinnom Ch. 22)

9 - Tyre Ch. 23

(Chapter 13 & 14 are about Babylon and the King of Babylon - Nations mentioned after Babylon (Chapters 15-23) were considered in league with Babylon for protection and so come under what Prof. Gileadi calls a "Babylon Umbrella". John calls his Babylon, "Babylon the Great" which includes all these nations – "The Greater Babylon" – This can include all the nations of the world in the end times if they follow after Babylon and are not part of Zion.)

## **ISAIAH 13**

### **Introduction**

This chapter is a revelation specifically about Babylon. "In the Book of Isaiah Babylon represents spiritual chaos. Historically, Babylon follows in Assyria's footsteps as a military world power, but was most notorious for its idolatry. Babylon's domination of the world takes the form of an idolatrous materialism. Babylon is characterized as a harlot or mistress of the kingdoms of the world, bereft of children in the day-of-judgment, and punished by physical violence. Babylon is always contrasted with Zion. They both represent spiritual entities in the Book of Isaiah. Babylon is dethroned, disrobed, and banished into the dust by Zion's Redeemer while Zion is called from the dust, clad in priestly robes and enthroned as part of its redemption by the Lord. Babylon represents all that Zion is not, and vice versa. Babylon is destroyed and Zion delivered. Babylon's gods are taken captive, unable to save Babylon, while Israel's God grants deliverance in Zion. Babylon is a harlot, Zion a faithful wife. Babylon is bereft of children, while Zion's children return and are born. Babylon is characterized as a shipping empire, a merchandizing society, technological, sophisticated, refined, palatial, idolatrous, wicked and oppressive. The people of Babylon world". Babylon is a synthesis of all nations other than Zion." (The Apocalyptic Book of Isaiah pg. 194-198)

All these prophecies having to do with Babylon are quite extraordinary. These prophecies were delivered almost 100 years prior to Babylon's greatness, let alone its destruction. During Isaiah's time Assyria dominated the Middle East and was at its pinnacle of power. Assyria would expand its territory even unto Israel and Judah. In 732 B.C. the Assyrians invade Israel and deport some of her people to Assyria. They begin paying tribute to Assyria. In 722 B.C. Samaria (Capital of Israel) is captured and almost all the people of Israel are deported to Assyria. Later, 701 B.C., King Sennacherib (Assyria's king) attacks Judah and besieges Jerusalem. Sennacherib is not successful.

It isn't until 612 - 605 B.C. that Nebuchadnezzar's father, with the help of the Medes and the Persians, invades and destroys Ninevah and Necho the capitals of Assyria and Egypt. It is after 605 B.C. that Babylon has its time of greatness and is called "The Lion". Isaiah sees these future events and uses Babylon as not only a geographical future enemy, but as an enemy of righteousness. Babylon, as discussed before, is used as a symbol of all wicked nations fighting against Israel in the Last Days. We see this with all subsequent prophets who receive revelation about the Last Days (Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, John of Revelations). Babylon is not defeated geographically until 539 B.C. by the hands of the Medes and Persians (see Daniel 5). After that time Cyrus, King of Persia, is in power and fulfills his role as "restorer" to Israel. Cyrus is used as a "Righteous King" figure as you will see in future chapters of Isaiah.

## The Babylonian Empire at Its Height



Hanging Gardens of Babylon



- Verse 9 (Behold!) The Day of the Lord cometh; both with wrath and fierce anger,  
To lay the land desolate and destroy the sinners there of out of it.
- Verse 10 (For)  
(and) The stars of heaven shall not give their light,  
The constellations of heaven shall not give their light.  
  
(and) The sun shall be darkened in **His** going forth,  
The moon shall not cause **Her** light to shine.  
  
(D&C 88:45, 133:49)
- Verse 11 (And)  
(and) I will punish the world for their evil,  
I will punish the wicked for their iniquity.  
  
(and) I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease,  
(and) I will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible (tyrants).
- Verse 12 (even) I will make a man more precious (scarcer) than fine gold,  
I will make a man more precious (scarcer) than the golden wedge of Ophir.  
  
(Ophir is the most refined gold)
- Verse 13 (and) Therefore I will shake the heavens,  
The earth shall remove (be jolted) out of her place.  
  
(and) In the wrath of the Lord of Hosts,  
In the day of his fierce anger.
- Verse 14 (And)  
(and) It shall be as the chased roe,  
It shall be as a (flock of) sheep that no man taketh up (rounds up).  
  
(and) They shall, every man, turn to his own people,  
They shall, every man, flee into his own land.
- Verse 15 (and) Every one that is found shall be thrust through,  
Every one that is joined unto them shall fall by the sword.
- Verse 16 Their children (infants) also shall be dashed to pieces before their eyes,  
Their houses shall be spoiled, and their wives ravished.
- Verse 17 **Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them:**  
  
(The Medes were allies of Assyria)  
  
(and) They shall not regard silver,  
They shall not delight in gold.  
  
(Bribery will not influence them)

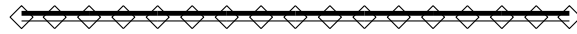
- Verse 18 (and) Their bows also shall dash the young men to pieces,  
They shall have no pity on the fruit of the womb; their eyes shall not spare children.
- Verse 19 (And) Babylon, the glory of kingdoms,  
Babylon, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency.  
  
Shall be as when God threw down Sodom and Gomorrah,  
Shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.
- (Sodom and Gomorrah perished when "Fire and Brimstone Rained from the Sky")
- Verse 20 It shall never be inhabited,  
It shall never be dwelt in from generation to generation.  
  
The Arabian (nomads) shall never pitch tent there,  
The shepherds shall never make their fold there.
- Verse 21 (But) Wild beasts of the desert shall lie there,  
(and) Their houses shall be full of doleful creatures (weasels),  
  
(and) Owls (Birds of prey) shall dwell there,  
(and) Satyrs (Demonic creatures) shall dance there.
- Verse 22 (And the) Wild beasts of the islands (jackals) shall cry in their desolate houses (palaces),  
(and) Dragons (Howling creatures) shall cry in their pleasure palaces (amusement halls):  
  
(and) Her (Babylon's) time is near to come,  
(and) Her (Babylon's) days shall not be prolonged.

There are "Covenant Curses" that will happen to those who break covenants made with God, but here we see "Curses" that will ultimately happen to the wicked of the World:

1. Swift Death - Annihilation by Fire and the Sword
2. Wild Creatures Inhabiting Their Homes/Lands – Destruction of the Work of Their Hands
3. People Treated Without Compassion of Any Kind and Humiliated by Traitors – Former
4. The Universe/Heavens/Nature Combine to Destroy Them – Blood of the Righteous Cries Up Out of the Ground



# Covenant Curses - Book of Isaiah



- Death/Disease
- No Burial - Left out for Dogs to Devour
- No Attachment to Ancestors or Children
- No Elders/Prophets/Wise Men
- Women & Children Lead  
(Men are Unwilling, Unable, Unworthy or Dead)
- Barren Women - No Children Born
- Children Abandoned
- Land Cursed - Hunger & Thirst
- Fire, Tempest, Earthquakes, Bloodsheds,  
Pestilence, and Famine
- Thorns/Briars Instead of Plants/Fruit
- Animals Die
- Enemies Triumph Over You
- Nakedness/Baldness/Being Shaven  
(Power Taken/Weakness/Shame)
- Empty Cities/Palaces/Buildings
- Sorrow & Mourning



# Covenant Blessings - Book of Isaiah



- Eternal Life
- Sealed to Ancestors -Roots -(Bosom of Abraham - Heaven)
- Many Children -Blossoms -Branches
- Messiah - Born Through David's Line
- Righteous Patriachal Leadership -  
Prophets/Priests/Wise Elders  
Kings/Princes/Military Leaders/Judges
- Bountiful Land -Plenty of Food & Drink
- Joy & Song
- Peace
- Dwell in High Places/Buried in High Places
- Enemies Punished
- Children Protected/Taught/Comforted

