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SANCTIFIED GARROTE

Isaiah 13

INTRODUCTION: Garrote - Ga-rot: A Spanish mode of execution by strangulation with an iron collar tightened by a screw; also a collar-like device. Esp. for robbery.

World Power Assyria - No longer oppressor.

Israel in Song - Verse 12.

Divine Chastening - Verse 13. Whole earth. Nation after nation. All that has happened is but a shadow of what is still to come.

Flood - all swept away except one family. - Next - only one family - family of God!

Jerusalem - Armies would come. Jewish tears would flow. The nation would be scattered and peeled as a potato. Suffering. I Thess. 1:10.

Divisions: Seeing A Vision - Verse 1-5.

Sentence Upon Sinners - Verse 6-18.

Sodom A Preview - Verse 19-22.

I. Seeing A Vision - Verse 1-5.

Verse 1 - Babylon is FIRST under divine sentence in the vision. Vision of Isaiah - son of Amoz. Telling these events.

Burden: Weight of the wrath or sentence. A Load. They would not accept the word of God, Heed his Word. A strong conviction of the certainty of this world!

Here he sees what God is planning for Babylon who has wronged or oppressed his people.

✓ Type: Babylon and Jerusalem. Ancient Babylon destroyed Ancient Jerusalem, But when the Lord Jesus returns it will be reverse.

Babylon - means confusion, rebellion, pride, disobedience.

Gen. 11:1 "And the whole earth was of one language and of one speech". Babel or Babylon.

Burden on the Prophet's soul to predict the guilt and judgment on the city and nation.

Rev. 18:4. "And I heard another voice from Heaven saying, come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

Verse 2 - Sees a picture of (three) things.

(Mustering the armies of wrath).

First, Flag or ensign placed on a high mountain. A banner is put on a hill without trees to obstruct the view. Eye shall see!

Second, Loud call or shout for the army to come. Ear shall hear!

Third, Invite by beckoning with the hand. This was to hasten the charge.

Enter gates of Nobles: Hitherto only admitted nobles. Now conquerors - power of wrath over the palace and the cottage infered!

Invasion of Babylon by Persians!

Verse 3 - Sanctified Ones - Sanctified Garrote! Selected and set apart to be executors of my wrath saith the Lord.

Calling Persia - not mean these soldiers were holy in character but an awful judgment was before them. Devine pronouncement. The Persian sanctified ones are filled with assurance of victory.

Verse 4 - Describes the Enemies of Babylon.

Cheyne - Persians were known as mountain people, very hardy in habits and valour.

Noise - Prophet hears the confusion of noise and the gathering of the crowd - a multitude - much people, ready for battle. That one sentence is vivid in describing the prophets impressions. God is getting ready for judgment - preparing his instrument! Confusion of Battle.

Verse 5 - Gathering of weapons of wrath. Other nations will help. Clean sweep.

II. Sentence Upon Sinners - Verse 6-18.

Catch the prophecy of the final judgment of a wicked world.

Verse 6 - Day of the Lord. Day of judgment. Day when God will act.

There are those who will have reason to tremble when this takes place.

The day when God shall step in and dispose of the wicked in the world. Men have their day now. But God laughs at them for he sees the day coming -- God will deal in severity with evil.

Do you ever think of the future?

What is to take place in the day of the Lord?

This is the day of the Devil now! Think of the cruelties of men today, cruel passions, unrestrained terror in the world with all its horrors - Few men are actually trying to bring good into the world.

Babylonians were about to reap what they had sown! Day of retribution.

Verse 7 - Hands and Hearts.

Hands - helpless to put off the judgment - hang feebly at the side. Men were no longer heroes.

Hearts - brave men melted like wax in the sunshine! Courage failed.

Verse 8 - Travail.

Like the fear of a woman in hard labour. Anguish - pains - extreme suffering. No way to resist judgment. Frightened themselves and frighten one another. Each look at his neighbour. All are filled with amazement!

Face - flame - flushes of red and pale - color changes as a flame of fire.

Verse 9 - Sweeping The Sinners Out of the World.

Miniature picture of this single city of a far more wide spread terror in that coming day of the final judgment.

Noah's Day = Earth laid waste.

Turn once more -- no catastrophe can compare to the final judgment.

Matt. 13:40 - "Tares" taken from earth in judgment.

Matt. 24:40-41 - One taken in judgment -- One received a blessing.

Fearful thing to fall into the hands of God's wrath.

Verse 10 - Heavens are DARK -- Day when Christ was crucified. Displeasure of God at sin as Heavens refuse to shine. Heavens are to co-operate with the awe inspired sufferings. No tenderness - no light of the beloved son. No cheer. The sun, moon, stars are altered and invisible when God's wrath is active. Heavens

*Greenwood, Ark - 2,000 people had 2 minutes to think - last Frid. Apr. 19, 1968 - 1st Toronto warning
refuse to give sympathy. How great the terrors. Smashed 1/2 the town killed 12 people. Hundreds
injured - Dark - Wood Cracking - Year of Violence - like noise of 1,000 Air Planes - Teacher 14 children on floor
they cried for help, screaming because of darkness, town sq. flatten court house - Century old trees etc -*

Verse 11 - Punishment for iniquity. All of this was for SIN.

That the sin of Babylon must be punished. Do you think your sin will go unpunished?

Whole world to come under punishment.

Verse 12 - Price of a Man. Picture of world wide war and final tribulation.

Great slaughter produce scarcity of men. A man could not be found for office, for the Army, for a husband. Depopulated by judgment.

Frail mortal man - earth born Adam. More valuable than gold or precious stones.

Figuratively speaking a man would be more precious than fine gold.

Men today have put a pitiful value on man. Nothing more than a machine.

Poet said:

Still, as of old
Man by himself is priced.
For thirty pieces Judas sold
Himself, not Christ!

Christ raised the value of a human being. He said what if a man gain the whole world - what profit, if he lose his soul?

Picture of Raphael - art gallery, Bergano. "Virgin and the Child". Napoleon invaded Italy both Milan and Bergano. Captured the art treasures. Ready to collect

and sent to Paris. To save this picture, some artist swiftly painted a coarse landscape over the original canvas and such things were considered worthless. It was left. Later the picture was lost. No one recognized its true nature. 1868 - The hastily applied colors began to peel off and the real picture was discovered underneath to the great delight of all art lovers.

Christ came. Stripped off the cheap value of man. Revealed his true worth.

Jack London "In The Sea Wolf" has one of his characters to ask "What is a man's life worth"?

Could you answer the question?

Verse 13 - Universal - Great tribulation foretold.

Shaken Heavens with terror of thunder.

Shake Earth with earthquakes. Waves upon the ocean.

Powers of judgment will awaken heaven and earth to share in the Day of the Lord.

Verse 14 - Complete Confusion.

Doe takes to flight when alarmed. Sheep scatter. Every man shifts for himself.

No safety. Nothing but death for any who are caught.

Verse 15 - No Escape - Loosening of all ties.

Scene - Blood - horror - run through with the sword.

Verse 16 - No Chance of Recovery - Barbarous Warfare.

Lam. 5:11

Rev. 13:10

Psa. 137:9

Cruelties - before their eyes. Medes dashed Babylon's babes to death as the Babylonians had dashed Jerusalem's.

They were bound to stone without pity. Deut. 21:18-21. It is the awful judgment of God.

Empires of wickedness shall be over come until He - Christ shall come!

Judgment here spoken should revise your thoughts about evil.

Infants dashed to pieces - before eyes of parents.

Houses plundered and wives prey of enemy - ravished!

Verse 17 - Instrument - The Sanctified Garrote!

Medes - Persians - Gen. 10:2. 2K. 17:6.

They are not after gold - it is blood!

No bribe will work now! They will show no pity.

Medes are coming for revenge. Consume all other passions, they will get the silver, but principle passion is judgment.

Verse 18 - Medes are trained for this.

Youth will have no power - wicked men will cut them down. No sparing of the children.

Warning: Some parents today are just as barbarious by not giving their children the blessings of Sunday School and Worship on the Lord's Day.

III. Sodom A Preview

Verse 19 - Repetition - Re-run.

Chaldeans glory in riches. Beauty of the City. Wealth. Sodom a symbol of the fate. Worse than Lot's loss. Solemn warning to men today. Listen to the Saviour's teaching. Matt. 11:20-24. Fate more sever even than the fall of this city because you have had clear light and you have sinned against that light. 2 Cor. 2:16 You have had an opportunity of salvation. You have had the example of Christ before you. You have heard multiplied warnings to which you have not given heed.

Glory of long standing as an empire, great art, literature, architecture, magnificence kings, wealth and splendour totally déstroyed in special divine judgment.

Nebuchadnezzar built and added beauty. Sodom was destroyed when they were secure -- eating and drinking. Luke 17:28-29.

Babylon taken when Belshazzar feasting and Cyrus and Darius began to demolish the city.

Verse 20 - Unheard of Destruction.

Mound of dirt left. None of the proud left. 2:12. Not even visited by Shepherds. No grazing for sheep. No wandering Arah would pitch his tent or use it for a camping ground. Scant vegetation.

(Modernist) smile at this! Laugh all you please. The Prophet said it, God meant it.

(Alexander the Great) thought he could rebuild in spite of this Prophecy, and make it into a metropolis a part of his empire. He was carried off to an early death.

60 B. C.

Verse 21 - Wild Animals.

Historians say this was fulfilled to the letter. Benjamin Bar-Jona "This is that Babel which was of 30 miles in breadth; it is now laid waste. There are yet to be seen the ruins of a palace of Nebuchadnezzar but the sons of men dare not enter it for fear of serpents and scorpions, which possess the place."

Desert - Dry - No water. No rest. Matt. 12:43. Away from the light and love of God.

A place of sorrow - ever-lamenting ones. Mournfully howling ones. Literally "daughters of a doleful cry". Wail or howl. Translators have rendered it "owls".

Satyrs - Interesting - Some have translated this goat. ^{Myth - Part GOAT + Part MAN -} You can take this word and interpret it as demons - devils! As in 2 Chron. 11:15. "He ordained priest for the high places, and for the Seirim (demons) and for the calves which he had made."

I Cor. 10:20 "Evil Spirits".

(Complete) judgment - never inhabited. Now for over (24 hundred years) we have fulfilled prophecy! Literally.

Verse 22 - Judgment Not Delayed One Second.

Wild Beast - as howling ones in the area place where songs of revelry and Belshazzar feasted with a thousand of his lords, shouts of merriment shall be now howls.

Get this. Puts light upon the day when "there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Mark 5 - "Under the power of a legion of these same creatures, amid the tombs, crying and cutting himself with stones!"

No way to estimate the spirit anguish of a soul's separation from God!

Dragons - Pharaoh king of Egypt a great Dragon.

Synonym for the "abyss" or "bottomless pit" in which the devil is to be cast bound for a thousand years.

Climax is clear. The symbol is the "great dragon - the Devil".

Isaiah is speaking of Babylon but in contrast in the New Testament we find her as the Harlot, Apostate, even the aim of one world church with a earthly pope with authority over the whole earth. This great Babylon is increasing in American his efforts and be recognized as a National Religion with a great \$5 million Cathedral in the nations capitol.

Don't miss the contrast of Babylon - Demons - unclean spirits - even creeping into modern Christendom.

John said in Rev. 18:2 "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of Devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird".

Evil spirits.

How long did the judgment delay? About 200 years!

The New Testament Babylon will also be destroyed in her hour of judgment! A sanctified Garrote has already been arranged.

You may have 2 minutes - 2 yrs - 2 or 4m before face Judgment -