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"SCORNER'S GUILT"

Isaiah 29

INTRODUCTION:

The crown of the drunkards of the Northern Tribes fade like flowers as told in Isaiah 28.

2.9 He speaks of men not drunk physically but in a spirit of deep sleep.

Scorners will be punished by Sennacherib's invasion.

Interesting word Ariel. AR-el.

I. Sorrow of Guilty Ariel - 1-8.

II. Stupidity of Ariel - 9-16.

III. Snare of Ariel - 17-21.

IV. Sanctification The Answer - 22-24.

I. Sorrow of Guilty Ariel - 1-8.

Verse 1 - Ariel - Symbolic Name - Prophets use such.

Meaning of the word: 2 Sam. 23:20. "Benaiiah...slew two lion-like (Ariel) men of Moab," The margin reading, "Lions of God", This is the simplest and most direct meaning of Ariel -- "The lion of God".

Ezek. 43:16 The first part of the compounded word is - "Ari" is rendered "Altar" and the whole may also be translated, "Altar of God", as the place upon which the fire of God was kindled and maintained.

The lion of God - the great brazen altar.

Jerusalem - as we speak of nick names - The esign of Tribe of Judah was a lion.

Jerusalem - a terror to her neighbors, because she was righteous and bold.

Sorrow and distress foretold - woe - repeated. Matt. 28/37. Jerusalem, strong city as a lion.

External performance of religious services not exempt from Judgment.

"Add year to year" - annual feast --males appear 3 times a year - continue to kill sacrifices.

Hearts not humbled - lives not reformed - offended God.

"Go On" -- This will not avert Judgment!

New Testament scene - The Lord was weeping "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem".

Verse 2 - All the country laid waste.

Shall be heaviness of sorrow. "Moaning and bemoaning". Real cry of woe.

Jerusalem became an altar - destroyed by the Chaldeans. Many died when besieged by Assyrians.

City became an altar upon which sinners were falling under Judgment.

Verse 3 - Encamp around the entire wall (Joshua marched the entire length of the wall of Jericho.).

Not destroy at this time "But Distress".

*chastening*  
*SEN. MARK HATFIELD - Great Fear in This Country for Miracles to be wrought. Paris Peace talks, Realists, This Seige. Talks may fail, if that happens, el fear a swing of the pendulum from peace fever to war fever, which may plunge the U.S. into a Super Military involvement.*

Verse 4 - Brought down to dust. Humbled - mortified. Talked big - brought down to faint, feeble voice not able to speak up.

Verse 5 - Terrible armies will come - instant suddenly! Jerusalem has stood many sieges -- more than any other city.

Beyond the reference to Sennacherib's campaign here is figurative expression of the truth that the church shall suffer but not perish. (2 K. 19:32)

We note Israel's history is not finished but shall continue in the future.

Prophecy with one vice tells us this.

Verse 6 - How the city will be distressed?

Earthquake - great noise - whirlwind - tempest - flame.

Verse 7 - Her enemies like a dream of a night vision. Baseless.

Hoped to enrich themselves. Hoped to gain power.

*Assyrian - Not shoot an arrow there!  
"I will defend this city."*

Awake to find Jerusalem is conqueror. Her groans and distress turned to joy. Pentecost - cry "What shall we do?"

Verse 8 - Dreamers addressed.

Hungry man.

Thirsty man.

Long toil - marches - dreamed of riches.

Mungo Park's in his journals. "No sooner had I shut my eyes and fancy would convey me to the streams and rivers of my native land. There I wandered along the banks of the clear stream and surveyed the swallow receiving a delightful draught. But myself a lonely captive, perishing of thirst amid the wilds of Africa."

II. Stupidity of Ariel - 9-16.

Verse 9 - First stagger.

Stare with astonishment at this prophecy. Prophet amazed at their stupidity.

They had prophets - knowledge of the Lord. Surely they would abide by this revelation. *Trend toward Depreciation of life in this country - measure the Kill ratio - How many Vietnamese are killed each day. Reports: 3 day rest & Recreation pass is granted every American Soldier to have killed a Vietnamese.*  
They delay repentance. Pharaoh - They blind their own eyes. *cost: Vietnam War one month - provide Higher Education for 100,000 youth.*  
Ephraim Erred through strong drink. You by refusing truth.  
Drunk with love of pleasure -- forgotten the law. Stumble due to unstable counsel.

Verse 10 - Second Deep Sleep.

Spiritual deadness - impassiveness - inability to appreciate warnings.  
Unbelieving - rejecting - hardened in infidelity.

*Mat. 25:4 "Bridgroom turned thy ALL Slumbered AND Slept" - Midnight - Foolish "OUR LAMPS ARE gone out."*

Verse 11 - Third Sealed Book.

Written documents were often sealed up to secure secrecy.  
*Explosion of Knowledge & Information of Jews Day not double until 1900 Available Information 1900 doubled 1950; 1950 doubled 1960; 1960 doubled 1966*

Bosch Not published fast enough, nor libraries not built fast -  
Mounting Data - Radio - T.V. - Mass information

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Clay tablet - often enclosed in a clay envelope, document not read till  
outer clay covering was broken.

Rolls of parchment were secured differently - wax.

Condition this age - care nothing for the word - just dream literature to many.

Sealed the book by paying no attention to it. Rom. 1:14.

Word not understood. Rev. 5:2. 1-5 -

Not God's Plan to seal his book. For our understanding and instruction.

Sealed through human evil. Prejudice keeps a man from finding what he does  
not want to find!

Closing our minds to illumination of God's Spirit. Key is Holy Spirit.

Verse 12 - Cannot read writing - Blind - Folly.

✓ Verse 13 - Fourth Lip Religion. Dr. Peter L. Berger, Lutheran - Vanderbilt, Speech "21<sup>st</sup>  
Century religious Believers are likely to be found only a small sect,  
Religious performance's - profession. thought of as eccentric" - Religious packages from shrinking  
Ecumenical movement is "simply price fixing" to prevent "Rel. packages from shrinking market."  
Outward, but no inward religion to correspond to it. *WOMAN of SAMARIA spoke of  
TNT's - Temples -  
Jesus Be More than lip service!*

Unspiritual.

"People draw near me with their mouth" - *Jesus Quotes  
ISA. Matt. 15:8.*

*"God is spirit and they that  
worship him must worship  
him in spirit and in truth."*

Use sacred words and mean nothing.

People have always in the church represented their own minds, thoughts, reasons,  
as if they were pure truth from God.

Do not apply their mind - heart to the service of God.

Do not make the word of God the rule.

Apply their own inventions of truth - directions - Head may bow - knee may bend  
- lips may blend forth.

Verse 14 - Spiritual wickedness - judged - they thought they had cheated God.

Incapable teachers - incompetent teachers perish - They have lost their way.

A marvelous work that the wise men lose their wisdom.

✓ Verse 15 - Fifth Hide from the Lord. Breaking away from the Lord - Cry  
Today is Break away from the Church - Elijah, Thinking only  
one left of God's servants - God told - 7,000.

Bad News in Nation - War - stalks the land -  
Crime increasing 5 or 6 times faster than population growth.  
Pistols, looting, sin, shame -5-

Unenlighted schemes to conceal their works.

Men love darkness.

Heart deceitful - desperately wicked.

Gal. 1:11.

✓ Verse 16 - Sixth turned things upside down. Bad News a reality -

Perverted everything - made nothing of the word of God. They thought to do this unknown to God.

Church - mistaken notions about shaking the church. Change the spiritual things, simple things. *Hippies expect Bad News this summer moving to Portland, Oregon open fields, forest, mts, & Old Barns to sleep in.*

What perversity - can you claim to have fashioned yourselves? Like Clay.

*D.C. - Depressed Country - Normally Spring time a flood of tourists. Cancelled out. Hotels, restaurants, hotels, feeling impact - spreading alarms.*

III. Spare of Ariel - 17-21.

Verse 17 - Little while - wild forest. Change. Short while. For better or worse.

Verse 18 Deaf Hear - Hour of Revival. Sealed book opened. Rev. 10:1.

God give cause to rejoice. Power of spiritual vision. Awaken.

Gentiles - those that sit in darkness. Acts 26:18.

Verse 19 - Meek. Joy in the Lord. Man will realize the closeness and blessedness, nobility of their relationship to God.

God's ways perfect and consistent.

Verse 20 - Scorner - Long been in the ascendancy - superiority.

Sennacherib that terrible one - brought to naught.

Powers of Satan broken.

Scoff at religion.

Ridiculed the prophets and serious professors of religion - despised them.

Sat in the seat of the scornful.

Spies - watch for things to hold on to that are said and done that may call iniquity.

Judas - watch, opportunity to betray Jesus.

Verse 21 - Took advantage of each slip of the tongue. Little amiss. Word mischosen or misplaced. Every word the prophet spoke they strained it.

Tried their best to bring trouble to those that dealt faithfully with the word and with their faults.

Duty of the prophet.

Watched our Lord - Matt. 22:15. Might have something to lay to his charge.

Pervert Judgment and not let honest men carry on honest causes. Turn aside - condemn him. Run him down. Misrepresent him.

I need not think it strange if some misjudge me. Have a responsibility to our Lord.

IV. Sanctification The Answer - 22-24.

Verse 22 - Promise to Abraham - Redeemed from us. *Good News - Sick, Poor,*

Jacob not be ashamed - wax pale.

Blush by reproaches - relieved.

Enemies are industrious.

*Rich,  
Not wait until we are good - Gospel  
Mud. Good News Christ  
Reconciling the world to himself.*

Answer of God - I am same God who appeared to Abraham - poor Jacob. Never changing God.

Verse 23 - Jacob thought his family be cut off, but have satisfaction of seeing some devoted to God. Believers, praying people, sanctified ones.

Sanctified ones - godly people - separated. Samuel taken by his mother to the tabernacle. Lent to the Lord.

Verse 24 - Conversion.

1. Understand error.

2. Learn doctrine of life.

Ruling class ignore the prophets warning.

Fully understood the nature of assyrian advance. Politicians did not see what was coming. Desolation of the land.

Unstable time - foolish arrangements. Isaiah was plain with the people. Told godly people to get ready for more serious trials. Mental distress. Anxieties of the times.

Hopeful - godly remnant.

He laid down strict discipline - urged righteous living. Simple faith. Great ideas about God.

World filled with conversation about diplomatic arrangements.

Treaties based on tribute. Egyptian alliances, this was called wisdom of the rulers.

Doing this and losing character.

Most direct route to the objective was not abstract doctrine, but interest in God.

Isaiah had a great idea for holier people influenced by right moral conditions. Urged closer intimacy with God.

He developed the truth of the mercy of God.

Today men argue over theory. Set up dogma. Dispute the Bible. Analyze and develop barren philosophy. Satanic forces have robbed men of practical value.