

SPIRIT GIVEN

Isaiah 31-32

INTRODUCTION:

Brimstone was the final word from the Prophet in response to the shameful gaeity of the nation described in Chapter 30.

Determined to go on in her willful rebellious way he continues to make application concerning their false trust. The climax is given in Chapter 32 in a promise of the spirit.

Automobile with a rear bumper sticker which read, "Don't follow me - I'm lost". This was the sticker pinned on the nation. Prophet said they had lost their way and he called them to listen to God's word. "This is the way, way ye in it". 30:21.

Judah had turned back on God. She was in trouble. Threat of Assyrian invasion. Which way would she go - where would she turn for help?

Outline:

- I. Stumbling Flesh 1-9
- II. Stammering To Cease 32:1-8
- III. Sackcloth Recommended 32:9-14
- IV. Spirit Poured Out 32:15-20

I. Stumbling Flesh 31:1-9

Verse 1 - Trusting in (Chariots.)

What was King Hezekiah to do? How was Judah to stand against Assyria? Ask the politician and what would he answer? One ans. - Make a strong alliance - get some powerful country to aid - match the armies.

Exactly what the rulers of Judah set about to do with Egypt.

Prophet reproves and denounces this. Egypt is a deadly enemy.

Since Adam every man has had his Egypt.

Prophet today - observe dipomacy - broken record, diplomats rushing here and there to deal with world problems. The United Nations is in constant session seeking to resolve conflicts without battles. The Pope visits nations and pleas for peace. General W. Thant flies around India, Asia - hope for permanent peace. Economic aid is poured out upon nations and this does not help their love for us.

Jews relied on Egypt despite her previous failure to give effective aid.

Pharaoh's maintained large numbers of chariots - one Historian at least 27,000.

Ex. 14:7 - It is believed that at least 600 were destroyed at the Red Sea.

2 Chro. 12:3 - Shishak had 1200 Chariots.

Only Hope - Egypt furnish chariot force that could stop Assyrians.

Idolizing the Egyptians.

We are impressed with numbers - huge tanks rolling down highway - artillery - war planes - war ships are awesome sight.

Slighting the power of God. Chariots represented a frightening sight - reliance on force.

Prophet knew his Bible. Psalm 20:7. "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of our God."

They thought they were wiser than the Bible.

Verse 2 - They do not seek the wisdom of the Lord.

Not seek or ask him for aid! Solicitors of aid from Egypt - hope for better advice - alliance - (Some think Egypt had part of the bargain that they worship their gods.)

Unbelief - Woe is against the Hebrews for depending - trusting in Egypt.

Always going "down" - descent.

Verse 3 - Judah relied on Pharaoh as a sort of God.

Egyptians are mere men - all are men! Not God. Made it clear they are but men - not God. Their horses are of flesh - not spirit!

When God is doing something spiritual in and through men he expects spiritual laws to be followed.

He can strike an army with blindness - As Benhadad 2 K. 6:18. Fill an army with panic and fear 2K. 7:6. Create confusion in an army. 2 Chro. 20:23. Send destroying angel. 2K. 19:35.

"It is nothing to him to help whether with many, or with them that have no power". 2 Chro. 14:11.

Two robbers attacked a man. He put up a terrific fight. Finally they overpowered him and searched him. All they found was a dime. Bandits were amazed. One of them said, "You don't mean to tell us you put up a battle like that for a measley dime. Why, we almost had to kill you."

The victim answered, "Well, the truth of the matter is, I didn't want to expose my financial condition."

Pride keeps many from using the power of God. Rather trust in Egypt then yield to power of God.

Admit your weakness - trusting in possessions - Chariots?

Trusting in those unable to help - depending on men. Men are here today and gone tomorrow. Everyone knows the Egyptians are not God. They have horses but they are flesh!

Sinners know the plainest evidence is against their trust in the flesh and will certainly be ruined with Egypt. Stumble and fail together.

This is like taking God's work out of his hands.

Verse 4 - Parable - Lion - Tears a lamb, the shepherds can only make a noise - dare not come near. Hope to frighten him off. Clear - They will not take away his food.

Here is interpretation - Jehovah comes down to deal with the foe. He is a fearless lion. His judgment will prevail. Not frighten away.

Words a Promise to those trusting God.

Verse 5 - Bird appears as a friend - lion as against their foe. As a bird guarding, covering her nest!

Fluttering - power and strength.

Passover - He saw the blood and passed over.

Jehovah sheltering - tender.

Matt. 28:37. - God was ready to gather Jerusalem, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings.

✓ Verse 6 - Appeal "Turn Ye" - Call to repentance.

Voice of John crying in wilderness "Repent Ye".

Prophet tenderly calls - "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest".

They had revolted - backsliden - stained their lives with sin.

✓ Verse 7 - Appeal "Turn Ye from Idols".

Vanity of idols - general reformation is predicted - part from their beloved sin!

✓ Verse 8 - Stumbling flesh protected by deadly sword. The sword will work against foe - melt.

Enemies of the church, God can deal with them without the aid of mighty men or mean men.

No human hand will hold the sword.

✓ Verse 9 - Enemy afraid - some downfall - into a furnace - consuming fire.

## II. Stammering To Cease 32:1-8

✓ Verse 1 - New king of government to stabilize this stammering condition. Messiah's rule to be a rule of strict justice. King - rule in righteousness. Princess - Rule in justice.

They will use power according to law. Some feel that democracy is the final form of earth's government.

President Lincoln - Gettysburg - "Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall never perish from the face of the earth".

It is being tested today - Democracy is on trial. Man as a race is still in rebellion against God, as long as this is true - whether government be in the hands of many or few, or one, the outcome will be the same.

The King is on the Throne at last - long expected. Primarily applies to the Kingdom of Hezekiah, but in its larger fulfillment it applies to Christ's Kingdom.

One of the indictments of Jesus - He was a King.

Three-fold inscription on His Cross.

Wise men came saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" Matt. 2:2.

Thirst in Egypt - turn to the King.

### Verse 2 - Marvelous Salvation

- A. Hiding place from wind.
- B. Covert from tempest.
- C. Water in dry place.
- D. Shade from great rock (weary land)

Indictment of the wicked social conditions. The words refuge - refreshment - rest - peace. Find meaning only in the Prophecy of the man Christ Jesus. Coming to Him we never thirst.

Long stretches of life - weary land - He is Great Rock.

Wind of affliction - hiding place.

Worst storms are those which rage within. Where can you find shelter?

Traveler of the East - domedaries - instinct the camels conceal their heads in fearful storms - turn themselves to the side opposed to the wind.

Sand storm - lost - day - 2 days.

Prophecy - man - weak - unable to protect self - eastern traveler, no house, no rock, no tree, to afford a moments shade. The wind rises, the lightning glares.

Hagar - utter hopeless - helpless. Gen. 21:15.

Perishing - dying.

Spurgeon - I sat under a beech tree. Gazed up, measured it and marked the architecture of its branches. Suddenly I saw a squirrel leap from bough to bough and I thought, "after all this beech tree is far more to you than to me, for you live in it. It delights me and affords me shade, but you live in it and upon it".

So we live in Christ.

Verse 3 - Day of Revelation - Stammering to cease.

Veneer removed - veil moved.

Work of reformation will begin.

A. Eyes not be dim - to see truth.

B. Ears not be dull - to hear truth. Will harken to word preached.

Verse 4 - C. Mind not be rash - to understand truth.

Wonderful change - clear head - consider - digest.

I John 5:20 - Give understanding.

Rash - time to meditate - ponder - consider - gift to discernment.

D. Tongue not stammer - ready to utter truth.

Blunder - speak plainly. Hesitating to talk on religion - now prompt, eager.

Need this in church - speak truth!

*little old lady being examined for jury duty in a small town was asked if she knew the defense lawyer; yes, "he is a crook and plaintiff's lawyer; yes, this a crook too with that the judge called both lawyers over for a conference. He whispered, "if you ask her if she knows me, I'll fine you for contempt of court!"*

Verse 5 - Stammering Tongue Described.

Confounded truth and error - good and evil. Virtue and vice - light and darkness.

Bad man held in good reputation. Foolish men are called noble. Church - peasant called liberal.

Verse 6 - Fool do more damage if he has power.

Fool speaks folly. Fool works folly - iniquity. Fool practice folly - profaners - ungodliness. Fool commits folly - error concerning the Lord.

Plating unjust things - work of the heart - work of the hands.

Practice hypocrisy - pass off as just men. Passion of evil - vile language.

Profane God - Call good evil.

Verse 7 - Instruments - Foul - Deviseth wickedness, to attain his end.

Verse 8 - Contrast of doing good.

III. Sackcloth Recommended - 32:9-14

Verse 9 - Alarm - Women - At ease, complacent. They were careless.  
Women are sensitive and the Prophet appeals to their temperament.

Verse 10 - Just a Little Beyond A Year

You will shudder - troubled.

You complacent careless women:

Vintage fail

Fruit fail - no harvest.

What will you do for wine to make merry?

Verse 11 - Command - Sackcloth

Tremble - women at ease

Shudder - Women complacent

Strip - Women finery

Sackcloth - Women proper dress for this hour.

Who are the careless ones in our day?

A. Careless ones neglect the Bible

B. Careless ones neglect Prayer

C. Careless ones neglect Sabbath

D. Careless ones neglect Church

E. Careless ones neglect confessing their Sins.

Best prevention of trouble is repentance.

Verse 12 - Sign - Smote breast - Humble - Lament.

Verse 13 - Field - uncultivated. House - without joy. Owners gone, never to return,  
never rebuild.

Verse 14 - Palace Forsaken

City deserted - Wild ass roams at will. These do not approach inhabited places for they are shy.

IV. Spirit Poured Out 32:15-20

Verse 15 - Until - modifies the previous "Forever". Spirit be poured upon us from on high. Contemporary prophecy of Joel 2:28-29.

Sample of that great day foretold.

Introduction to pouring out - God's people comfort themselves with the hope.

How poor the church would be. Testimony of Apostles. Experience of Christians.

Danger of forgetting our dependence upon the Spirit. Never carry on Christian work with proper energy without. Church is to extend. Must have more of the Spirit of God.

Spirit work conviction and opens heart. Prayer for lost. Depends upon necessity of the spirit's work.

Verse 16 - Justice - reach every wilderness. Righteousness - Cover land.

Preachers will preach and the poor, unlearned, the wilderness of unbelief will be reached!

Work of Spirit.

Sowing the Gospel.

Verse 17 - Righteousness:  
Peace  
Quiet  
Confidence - trust

Blessedness of Christ Kingdom. So little peace in world - because there is so little righteousness in the world.

So little "Love Thy Neighbor As Thy Self" - for the wicked there is no peace!

Righteousness: Not that man is good, but he is capable of good.

Right living is the goal of Christian people. Jesus practiced this. He was no liberal or radical. He did not come to tear up or destroy the law.



Rightness with God. - State of submission.

Quality of life - fellowship.

Inward peace - indwelling righteousness. Quietness - Assurance.

Satisfaction in true religion - life spent in godliness and honesty. I Tim. 2:2.

Obedience.

Work of righteousness is peace (Reward), until end of time.

Verse 18 - God's People - peaceable habitations.

Safe dwellings

Quiet resting places.

Principle of living right.

Napoleon - "War is the business of barbarians".

Wellington - "Men who have nice notions of religion have no business to be soldiers.

Lord Brougham "I abominate war as unchristian. I hold it to be the greatest of human crimes, and to involve all others - violence - blood - rapine - fraud - everything that can deform the character, after the nature, and debase the name of man."

John Howe, "Very plain it is that war is a mark of the apostasy, and stigmatizes man as fallen from God, in a degenerated, revolted state: it is the horrid issue of men's having forsaken God, and of their being abandoned by him to the hurry of their own furious lusts and passions".

Every gun manufactured for war is a sign of sin over us.

When man is right with God - inner conflicts cease - personal peace comes.

When a family is right with God - it will work to serve the needs of each other.

When a church family is right with God the scenes of dissensions give way to peace.

Formular for world peace is personal peace.

Verse 19 - Hail - destruction on enemy.

Verse 20 - Happy are you - Beatitude - Blessed, Preaching of word - Gospel is for the whole world.

Matt. 13:3. Found men's hearts ready.