

Dr. Wm. May 19, 1968 A.M. British

"STAGGERING GLOBE"

Isaiah 24

INTRODUCTION:

Section on Eschatology - dealing with the closing days of this age. Events of the last days.

Live issue "Burden" of preceeding chapters flow into the Last Judgment.

Closing juice of music.

Crashing noise of judgment. Prefigure of that day.

Not looking for this -- story of 2 men on ship returning from India. English Sport - Missionary. Sport said I've been 25 years and I never saw one of the Native's converted. This is queer said the Missionary - Did you ever see a tiger?

Hundred of them, I've shot dozens in the hunt. Missionary. I've been many years in India but I have never seen a tiger. But under the power of the Gospel I have seen hundreds of the Natives turn to the Saviour.

You see - one was looking for tigers, and the other was looking for souls!

Here we are stepping through the chapters of Isaiah discovering sad news for nation after nation and like a bomb we are in the search light of the final judgment.

16 Times in this Chapter he uses the word earth and every time describes the world reeling under the load of iniquity. Our subject "Staggering Globe".

- I. Shaking the Earth - 1-4.
- II. Sins Compiled - 5-12.
- III. Saints Comfort - 13-16.
- IV. Sinners Calamity - 16B.

I. Shaking The Earth - Verse 1-4.

Verse 1 - Earth.

Front page of Daily Paper.

Daniel 12:1 "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which

standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was, since there was a nation, even at that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

Matt. 24:21 "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor never shall be."

Stripped - "emptieth".

Waste - make havoc of things of worth. It is reduced to its first chaos.

Gen. 1:2. Without form and void.

Upside - topsy - confession - awful.

Earth made beautiful and fruitful for the service and comfort of man.

Verse 2 - Who will share in this Judgment?

Great levelling process - with high and low, bond and free, rich and poor.

- A. People to priest.
- B. Servant to master.
- C. Maid to mistress.
- D. Buyer to seller.
- E. Borrower to lender.
- F. Oppressed to usurer.

Unheard of - unthinkable - no class distinction in times of distress. All the same in the war trench.

Verse 3 - Earth Emptied - Repeated.

Empty (house) - city - spoiled, fruit meat, decayed.

Divine judgment - the Lord hath spoken.

End of the world Judgment. Nothing in the past fulfills this prophecy.

Modernism in one short sweep brushes it aside as being spurious. Not written by Isaiah, that disposed of it. If it was a fulfillment of the past then they desire it was written until after the event, disposed of it as not important. If no fulfill-

ment can be found then it is not true.

No credit given to Isaiah being moved by the Spirit to portray the terrors that "God will judge the world by that man whom He hath appointed".

Verse 4 - Hour will come on all the earth, as a vessel, turned upside down, complete Judgment.

I Peter 1:24 - Flower - withers in your hand. Not profitable - Judgment begins at the center. Israel and moves in ever-widening circumference, till includes the earth. Languisheth - sick man - feeble cannot stand alone - crutches.

II. Sins Compiled - 5-12

Reason for earth's Judgment. Sin entered the garden - polluted.

Verse 5 - Three things charged with.

✓ First, Transgressed Laws. Felt no obligations to obey Divine Laws. Set aside the laws at Sinai - No conscience, defied God as Creator. Natural and Moral. Zeph. 3:5.

"But the unjust knoweth no shame" - Lawless, yokeless, untameable as mule or wild horse. 10 Comm. - Lord's Day - How you kept it?

✓ Second, Twisted Requirments. The ordinances are by passed. The laws of nature are reversed.

Men have little respect for the laws of the land. Smile at - disobey those ordinances on the book that are not pleasing or convient for them. By-Pass - new highways - around - sins of omission.

✓ Third, Trampled The Covenant. "Everlasting Covenant". What is the everlasting covenant? Gen. 9:8-17. A beginning point.

Seven times the word covenant is referred to in reference to Noah. Clear - covenant which God made. Called - everlasting of which the rainbow was a token.

Principle of that covenant was grace. Founded of justice. Ultimate figure found in the cross. Disannulled, vacated the covenant.

God's goodness was to be with them day and night. Luke 12:20 - "God said, thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: Then whose shall those things be, which thou has provided?"

Verse 6 - For this the dwellers on earth are consumed almost to extinction.

2 words sum up human race.

Transgressed.

Broken.

God's act of mercy is that man's sin is revealed to him in order that he may know salvation.

'For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God'.

Curse - From Genesis to Malachi - The last word - which is - "Smite the earth with a curse". Gal. 3:13. Only hope.

Verse 7 - Great laughter ends with a sigh.

Make the world your joy and you can not rejoice forever more.

New wine - grown sour.

Read of Hitler's armies invaded wine cellars of France. How Perisians drank, sang, laughed, but now the merry-hearted - sigh.

Verse 8 - Music heard no more. The captives in Babylon hung their harps on the willow trees.

Music in Babylon until fiery furnace. Dan. 3:5., 4:1-3.

Verse 9 - Song and Drink ended.

Liquor Bill - Send the Gospel to every creature.

Curse of drink condemned by the Prophet. Hab. 2:15. "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken".

Verse 10 - Picture of all great cities - "city of confusion".

Chaotic condition - result of sin when visitation of judgment.

Good translation: A city in united opposition to God as Babel of old.

Verse 11 - Increasing gloom. Drunkards weep and cry for drink.

Verse 12 - Nothing of worth left in the city.

III. Saints Comfort - 13-16a

Verse 13 - Shaking olive tree. 17:6.

Remnant - Always some fruit left on the tree. Mercy remembered in the midst of judgment.

(Calamity) - Noah and Family.

Preserved by divine grace. Matt. 24:22.

Faithful remnant - few indeed - likened to the olives left after beating the trees for harvest.

Few grapes - after the bunches gathered, a solitary grape here and there.

Verse 14 - Few filled with holy joy and gratitude.

Elect - from the east to the west. Long hoped for conditions. From the islands and continents. Pole to pole. Sing because of deliverance and for majesty of the Lord.

Verse 15 - Few withstand the furnace made "7 times hot" - not bow to the image.

Verse 16a - Singing - comfort of saints in common calamities of places where they live.

Singing not sighing - good people carry a song - their religion with them. Deut. 30:4.

These songs go down to the glory and beauty of the righteous.

(Martin Luther) - dark, deep distress called for singing the 46th Psalm. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea".

IV. Sinners Calamity - 16b-23.

Verse 16B - My Leanness - Prophet is burden with care and grief by thankless countrymen.

Like Paul - Rom 9:1-2 "That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart".

Miseries he saw upon the earth.

Sudden change of song to groan - My misery! My misery!

Treacherously - provokes God to bring judgment. Men are false one to another,
there is no faith in man, universal dishonesty.

Truth departed - False to their God! His covenant.

They have crucified the Lord of glory with malice and ingratitude.

Isaiah would say to the church of our day you are included in this judgment.

Judgment on the church is it unthinkable?

A. Divisions of Fellowship.

Not church org.

Known by - "Love one another".

Sickness in the church - Is Christ divided?

I John - If profess love - hate a brother - who is your brother - a brother
in the church - what are you? A liar.

B. Complacency / what is wrong - lukewarm. Even unsaved people often in the
church trusting the church to save.

C. Missions / The more money we have the less we give. 31 new nations in
Africa and church lost their support.

D. Evil Tolerated / Immoral practices. No right way to do wrong! I Cor. 5:9-13.
Church attendance high but influence weak - Rationalization of Sin.

E. Distortion of the Gospel / - Gal. 1:6-10.

Another - compromise saying we need freedomism.

F. Unworthy Worship / I Cor. 11:28-39.

Careless - Joking way.

G. Apostasy

Turned away from Christ as sole redeemer and search for some other means.

Some decided we can improve upon Christ and the Cross.

He is no longer the Virgin born, crucified, Risen Lord. If not Christ, then what?

Treacherous dealers charge the Prophet you will be judged for your unsatisfactory service, unbrotherly conduct, unbridled tongue, unguarded life, and unstable faith.

Verse 17 - Pit and snare.

Hunter - suddenly snares the animal. Sinner pursued - plagues are at God's command.

Amorites escape the sword - hailstones reach.

Syrians escape to walled city - walls collapse.

Verse 18 - Curse overtakes disobedience - divine judgment.

1. Fleeth from the noise - fall in the pit.
2. Cometh up out of the pit - caught in snare.
3. Windows from on high are open - to rain wrath.
4. Foundations of earth did shake.

Even figuratively this is awful.

Amos gives 5 successive judgments upon the wicked world - famine - drought - palmerworm - the sword - judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah. Judgment is increasing.

Verse 19 - Staggering Globe. Said this before - like oil it must be rubbed in.

Little regard - Prophet presses the matter - drives the nail home.

Verse 20 - Staggering Globe - repeats again.

Nothing so pitiful and helpless as a drunkard.

Chimney left - vacant - castle - tower - all removed as easily as a small cottage, falls not to rise again. Atmosphere of unbelief.

Burden of sin, it sinks at last - there is no way man can redeem himself - Eph. 2:1-4. Whole creation groaning and travailing in pain.

One stroke - sinful man falls never to rise. Great drama of the final judgment.

Verse 21 - Earth Shaken - Language of judgment.

Kings and rulers of the earth reckoned with. Great men of the earth.

Verse 22 Dark Dungeon - Condemned prisoners - confinement - judgment visited.

Bottomless pit.

Verse 23 - Heavens are affected by Divine Judgment. 2 Peter 3:7. Sixteen times he describes the world staggering under iniquity in Chapter 24.

Only perfect government with Mt. Zion its capitol.

2 Thess. 2:8. "The Brightness of His Coming".

Rev. 20:11-15

And I saw a great white throne - sinners hear final sentence.

And him that sat on it - Lord

And I saw the dead, small and great stand before God

And the Books were opened - record examined

And another book was opened, Book of Life

And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books,
according to their works.

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and the grave delivered up her
dead and every man judged according to their works.

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the
lake of fire.

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

What am I going to do?

What can we do about it?

Is there a way out?

Would your workstand his appraisal?

The other day a parade was held in Jerusalem - Mr. Lindsey
our S. B. C. Miss. writes -
yellow & green tanks, amphibious tanks that crossed the
Suez canal - Green used by Syrians -
Telling of Deliverance -
Visit Mt. Sinai - Bunkers + defenses built by the Russians
to protect the Egyptians.
German installation for rockets which should have been
launched towards Tel Aviv.
Quicks: Not hard to be religious with these items of destruction
Open your eyes -
Deliverance came last June 6th -