Oracles Against the Nations (Part 2)

Isaiah 18-22
October 7, 2018
The Abrahamic Covenant

1. The prophets called a guilty people to repentance and warned of judgment if the people did not repent.
2. The prophets brought a message of comfort and hope to the nation that was distressed, oppressed, and even exiled from their land.

The hope given to the people was based on God’s faithfulness to His covenant with Abraham.
I. The sinful condition of Judah and impending judgment (1-12)
   A. The present and future of God’s people (1-5)
      o The current sinful condition of God’s people
      o God’s future restoration of His people
   B. God calls and sends Isaiah (6)
   C. The coming Assyrian invasion (7-12)
      o God promises a miraculous child to reign on the throne of David
      o God promises His people a home in the Messianic kingdom

II. God’s judgment on the nations (13-23)
The link that joins chapters 13-23 is their concern with nations that have encountered or will encounter Assyrian rule or threats and who take part in useless coalitions against Assyria.
Message to Ethiopia

(18:1-7) Ethiopia will honor God for destroying its enemies
The Oracle Against Egypt

(19:1-15) The Lord punishes Egypt
✦ Egypt’s internal troubles (19:1-4)
✦ Egypt’s lack of fertility (19:5-10)
✦ Egypt’s wisdom unable to help (19:11-15)

(19:16-25) In the Millennium, Egypt worships the Lord
✦ Judah terrifies Egypt (19:16-17)
✦ Egypt’s allegiance to the Lord (19:18)
✦ The institution of worship (19:19-22)
✦ Peace on Earth (19:23-25)
The Oracle Against Egypt & Ethiopia

(20:1-6) Egypt and Ethiopia cannot protect Ashdod from Assyria
## Addresses particular nations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st cycle (13-20)</th>
<th>2nd cycle (21-23)</th>
<th>3rd cycle (24-27)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(14:29-32) Philistia</td>
<td>(15-16) Moab</td>
<td>(17) Damascus &amp; Ephraim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(17) Damascus &amp; Ephraim</td>
<td>(18) Cush/Ethiopia</td>
<td>(18) Cush/Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(19) Egypt</td>
<td>(19) Egypt</td>
<td>(20) Egypt &amp; Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20) Egypt &amp; Ethiopia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The world is in the Lord’s hands and His promises will be fulfilled*
The Oracle Against Babylon

(21:1-10) Treachery leaves Babylon with no hope
The Oracle Against Edom

(21:11-12) Prolonged darkness enveloping a frightened world
The Oracle Against Arabia

(21:13-17) Gentile nations seeking help and finding none
The Oracle Against Jerusalem

(22:1-14) Judgment against Jerusalem
(22:15-25) Judgment against Shebna
  ✫ Eliakim would fill Shebna’s important position
Addresses particular nations | Whole world in crisis
---|---
**1st cycle (13-20)** | **2nd cycle (21-23)** | **3rd cycle (24-27)**

The world is in the Lord’s hands and His promises will be fulfilled

As Isaiah probes forward into the future, he sees the world become darker
THE RECURRING THEME IN ISAIAH 13-23 IS THAT FAITH IN THE LORD’S PURPOSES, AND NOT FOREIGN POLICIES, WILL PROTECT JERUSALEM.
10 He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He does not take pleasure in the legs of a man. 11 The LORD favors those who fear Him, Those who wait for His lovingkindness.

Psalm 147:10