August 2

READ ISAIAH 31–35

CHAPTER 31

Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because *they are* many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!

- 2 Yet he also *is* wise, and will bring evil, and will not call back his words: but will arise against the house of the evildoers, and against the help of them that work iniquity.
- 3 Now the Egyptians *are* men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD shall stretch out his hand, both he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is holpen shall fall down, and they all shall fail together.
- 4 For thus hath the LORD spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, *he* will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them: so shall the LORD of hosts come down

to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof.

- 5 As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver *it*; and passing over he will preserve it.
- 6 ¶ Turn ye unto *him from* whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted.
- 7 For in that day every man shall cast away his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which your own hands have made unto you *for* a sin.
- 8 ¶ Then shall the Assyrian fall with the sword, not of a mighty man; and the sword, not of a mean man, shall devour him: but he shall flee from the sword, and his young men shall be discomfited.
- 9 And he shall pass over to his strong hold for fear, and his princes shall be afraid of the ensign, saith the LORD, whose fire *is* in Zion, and his furnace in Jerusalem.

CHAPTER 32

BEHOLD, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.

- 2 And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.
- 3 And the eyes of them that see shall not be dim, and the ears of them that hear shall hearken.
- 4 The heart also of the rash shall understand knowledge, and the tongue of the stammerers shall be ready to speak plainly.
- 5 The vile person shall be no more called liberal, nor the churl said *to be* bountiful.
- 6 For the vile person will speak villany, and his heart will work iniquity, to practise hypocrisy, and to utter error against the LORD, to make empty the soul of the hungry, and he will cause the drink of the thirsty to fail.
- 7 The instruments also of the churl *are* evil: he deviseth wicked devices to destroy the poor with lying words, even when the needy speaketh right.
- 8 But the liberal deviseth liberal things; and by liberal things shall he stand.
- 9 ¶ Rise up, ye women that are at ease; hear my voice, ye careless daughters; give ear unto my speech.

- 10 Many days and years shall ye be troubled, ye careless women: for the vintage shall fail, the gathering shall not come.
- 11 Tremble, ye women that are at ease; be troubled, ye careless ones: strip you, and make you bare, and gird *sackcloth* upon *your* loins.
- 12 They shall lament for the teats, for the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vine.
- 13 Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns *and* briers; yea, upon all the houses of joy *in* the joyous city:
- 14 Because the palaces shall be forsaken; the multitude of the city shall be left; the forts and towers shall be for dens for ever, a joy of wild asses, a pasture of flocks;
- 15 Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.
- 16 Then judgment shall dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field.
- 17 And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.
- 18 And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure

dwellings, and in quiet resting places;

- 19 When it shall hail, coming down on the forest; and the city shall be low in a low place.
- 20 Blessed *are* ye that sow beside all waters, that send forth *thither* the feet of the ox and the ass.

CHAPTER 33

WOE to thee that spoilest, and thou wast not spoiled; and dealest treacherously, and they dealt not treacherously with thee! when thou shalt cease to spoil, thou shalt be spoiled; and when thou shalt make an end to deal treacherously, they shall deal treacherously with thee.

- 2 O LORD, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble.
- 3 At the noise of the tumult the people fled; at the lifting up of thyself the nations were scattered.
- 4 And your spoil shall be gathered *like* the gathering of the caterpiller: as the running to and fro of locusts shall he run upon them.
- 5 The LORD is exalted; for he dwelleth on high: he hath filled Zion with judgment and righteousness.

- 6 And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, *and* strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD *is* his treasure.
- 7 Behold, their valiant ones shall cry without: the ambassadors of peace shall weep bitterly.
- 8 The highways lie waste, the wayfaring man ceaseth: he hath broken the covenant, he hath despised the cities, he regardeth no man.
- 9 The earth mourneth *and* languisheth: Lebanon is ashamed *and* hewn down: Sharon is like a wilderness; and Bashan and Carmel shake off *their fruits*.
- 10 Now will I rise, saith the LORD; now will I be exalted; now will I lift up myself.
- 11 Ye shall conceive chaff, ye shall bring forth stubble: your breath, *as* fire, shall devour you.
- 12 And the people shall be *as* the burnings of lime: *as* thorns cut up shall they be burned in the fire.
- 13 ¶ Hear, ye *that are* far off, what I have done; and, ye *that are* near, acknowledge my might.
- 14 The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?

- 15 He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil;
- 16 He shall dwell on high: his place of defence *shall be* the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters *shall be* sure.
- 17 Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off.
- 18 Thine heart shall meditate terror. Where *is* the scribe? where *is* the receiver? where *is* he that counted the towers?
- 19 Thou shalt not see a fierce people, a people of a deeper speech than thou canst perceive; of a stammering tongue, *that thou canst* not understand.
- 20 Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle *that* shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken.
- 21 But there the glorious LORD will be unto us a place of broad rivers and streams; wherein shall

- go no galley with oars, neither shall gallant ship pass thereby.
- 22 For the LORD *is* our judge, the LORD *is* our lawgiver, the LORD *is* our king; he will save us.
- 23 Thy tacklings are loosed; they could not well strengthen their mast, they could not spread the sail: then is the prey of a great spoil divided; the lame take the prey.
- 24 And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein *shall be* forgiven *their* iniquity.

CHAPTER 34

- OME near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it.
- 2 For the indignation of the LORD *is* upon all nations, and *his* fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter.
- 3 Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcases, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood.
- 4 And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll:

and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling *fig* from the fig tree.

- 5 For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment.
- 6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, *and* with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.
- 7 And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.
- 8 For *it is* the day of the LORD'S vengeance, *and* the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.
- 9. And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch.
- 10 It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up for ever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever.

- 11 ¶ But the cormorant and the bittern shall possess it; the owl also and the raven shall dwell in it: and he shall stretch out upon it the line of confusion, and the stones of emptiness.
- 12 They shall call the nobles thereof to the kingdom, but none *shall be* there, and all her princes shall be nothing.
- 13 And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof: and it shall be an habitation of dragons, and a court for owls.
- 14 The wild beasts of the desert shall also meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr shall cry to his fellow; the screech owl also shall rest there, and find for herself a place of rest.
- 15 There shall the great owl make her nest, and lay, and hatch, and gather under her shadow: there shall the vultures also be gathered, every one with her mate.
- 16 ¶ Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.
- 17 And he hath cast the lot for them, and his hand hath divided it

unto them by line: they shall possess it for ever, from generation to generation shall they dwell therein.

CHAPTER 35

THE wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

- 2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, *and* the excellency of our God.
- 3 ¶ Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.
- 4 Say to them *that are* of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come *with* vengeance, *even* God *with* a recompence; he will come and save you.
- 5. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

- 6 Then shall the lame *man* leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.
- 7 And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, *shall be* grass with reeds and rushes.
- 8 And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it *shall be* for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err *therein*.
- 9 No lion shall be there, nor *any* ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk *there*:
- 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Chapter 31:1 says, "Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help." Throughout the Scriptures, Egypt is a picture of the world. For the Israelites to be in Egypt was for them to be out of God's perfect will for their lives, to be unseparated from the things God had instructed them to be separated from.

In the first eight verses of chapter 32, Isaiah is thinking of the joyous aftermath of Zion's deliverance from the Assyrian army. Included in his thinking is the future reign of our Lord here on earth. In verses 9-15 he talks about careless women. It is difficult to see the connection between the first eight verses and verse nine, but there must have been a group of influential godless women in the court who had set themselves against everything that Isaiah stood for. Very likely, his meaning here is that a period of trouble is to intervene between the defeat of the Assyrian army and the reign of the Messiah. The forest (verse 19) is the Assyrian army! The city is Nineveh, or the central-

ized forces of evil in the latter days.

In verse 20 he says, "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters." Waters are expression of trouble, and sowing is the continuance of a godly Christian in paths of daily duty.

Chapter 34 is one of the darkest chapters in the Bible. Verses 1-7 speak of the Battle of Armageddon; verses 8-15 about the desolation following the disaster; and verses 16 and 17 speak of the divine guarantee that Israel will possess and inhabit the land that God has promised her.

In contrast, chapter 35 is one of the brightest and most joyful chapters in the Bible. It speaks of the restoration of the land and the manifestation of the Lord, and ends by speaking of the return of the redeemed remnant to Zion. This return will be an appointed way, a highway, a holy way, a plainly marked way, and a safe way. The redeemed will joyfully return to Zion, with everlasting exultation. At last they will obtain gladness, and the sorrow and sighing that has so long plagued them will flee away.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him" (Proverbs 30:5).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons. For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 15 (found on page 9).

BIRTHDAY TODAY

MANUEL PAINIA

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1876
THE DEATH OF WILD BILL HICKOK.

1909 UNITED STATES BOUGHT FIRST MILITARY PLANE FROM WRIGHT BROTHERS.

Thank God for this invention and modern convenience. Because of the change of time and the speed

of air traffic, I have often gotten somewhere many hundreds of miles away "before I left." For example, when I lived in Toledo, Ohio, and visited my sister in Chicago, I would leave Toledo at 10:00 and arrive in Chicago at 9:55.

1923

PRESIDENT HARDING DIED.

Pray for the President today in his many decisions.

1935

THE APPROXIMATE DATE OF THE CONVERSION OF DR. TOM MALONE.

Here is one of the great preachers of our generation. Dr. Malone is Pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pontiac, Michigan, where more than 40 years ago, he and his wife looked through the windows of an old saloon, renovated it, and started what is now this great church. Dr. Malone is also President of Emmanuel Christian Schools—an elementary school, a junior high school, a high school, and a college. Pray for the work of this giant of the faith today. Pray for Christian schools everywhere.

Pray for your pastor. Right now he may be standing beside the grave comforting some bereaved ones. Even now he may be trying to lead a sinner to Jesus Christ. Even now he may be trying to salvage the life of a youth. Even now he may be comforting someone who has heard he has only a few months to live. No one except a pastor could know the heartbeat and heartbreak of a pastor. Pray for your pastor today.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1920

MARCUS GARVEY PRESENTED HIS "BACK TO AFRICA" PROGRAM in New York City

1924

JAMES BALDWIN, WRITER, BORN NY 1924

1964

RACE RIOT, JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

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The Story of the Psalms

PSALMS 65

AUTHOR: Unknown.

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

The author was praising God for a bountiful harvest, and as the harvest was being gathered, he wrote the Psalm.

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD'S PEOPLE:

Psalm 65 was sung at the three great feasts. It was sung at the feast of the passover during the barley harvest and during the offering of the thank offering for the harvest.

It was then sung at the feast of pentecost 50 days later. At that time the wheat was ripe and the people sang the 65th Psalm as they thanked God for the ripened wheat. It was then sung at the final harvest at the feast of the tabernacles.

In the Bible the resurrection of the dead is likened to a harvest. There were three parts to the harvest of Israel. First came the first-fruits, then came the main harvest, then later came the gleanings or the leftovers. The resurrection in the Bible is called a harvest. (1 Corinthians 15:21) Jesus is called the firstfruits, so His resurrection is the firstfruit of the harvest. At the rapture, when the dead in Christ rise and the living who are saved are caught up to meet the Lord in the air with the dead in Christ, comes the main harvest. At the end of the tribulation period those who are saved during the tribulation period will be raptured, and this is the gleanings. Ah, let us read Psalm 65 thanking God for the earthly harvests and for the firstfruits, that is, the resurrection of Christ, and looking forward to the day when the main harvest shall take place.

The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I MUST BECOME BETTER BEFORE BECOMING A CHRISTIAN"

(Assignment 15)
Review these verses today. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning," link back or the DailyKJV page.)
() Luke 5:31 And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick.
() Luke 5:32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.
() Luke 18:10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.
() Luke 18:11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.
() Luke 18:12 (see Luke 18:13-14) If fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

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