

CHAPTER 14

FOR the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob.

2 And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.

3 And it shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve,

4 ¶ That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

5 The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked, *and* the sceptre of the rulers.

6 He who smote the people in

wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, *and* none hindereth.

7 The whole earth is at rest, *and* is quiet: they break forth into singing.

8 Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, *and* the cedars of Lebanon, *saying*, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.

9 Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet *thee* at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, *even* all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

10 All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us?

11 Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, *and* the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

13 For thou hast said in thine

heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, *and* consider thee, *saying*, *Is* this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

17 *That* made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; *that* opened not the house of his prisoners?

18 All the kings of the nations, *even* all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house.

19 But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, *and as* the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.

20 Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, *and* slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.

21 Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities.

22 For I will rise up against them, saith the LORD of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name, and remnant, and son, and nephew, saith the LORD.

23 I will also make it a possession for the bittern, and pools of water: and I will sweep it with the besom of destruction, saith the LORD of hosts.

24 ¶ The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand:

25 That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

26 This *is* the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this *is* the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations.

27 For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul *it*? and his hand *is* stretched out, and who shall turn it back?

28 In the year that king Ahaz died was this burden.

29 ¶ Rejoice not thou, whole Palestina, because the rod of him that smote thee is broken: for out of the serpent's root shall come forth a cockatrice, and his fruit *shall be* a fiery flying serpent.

30 And the firstborn of the poor shall feed, and the needy shall lie down in safety: and I will kill thy root with famine, and he shall slay thy remnant.

31 Howl, O gate; cry, O city; thou, whole Palestina, *art* dissolved: for there shall come from the north a smoke, and none *shall be* alone in his appointed times.

32 What shall *one* then answer the messengers of the nation? That the LORD hath founded Zion, and the poor of his people shall trust in it.

CHAPTER 15

THE burden of Moab. Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste, *and* brought to silence; because in the night Kir of Moab is laid waste, *and* brought to silence;

2 He is gone up to Bajith, and to Dibon, the high places, to weep: Moab shall howl over Nebo, and over Medeba: on all their heads *shall be* baldness, *and* every beard cut off.

3 In their streets they shall gird themselves with sackcloth: on the tops of their houses, and in their streets, every one shall howl, weeping abundantly.

4 And Heshbon shall cry, and Elealeh: their voice shall be heard *even* unto Jahaz: therefore the armed soldiers of Moab shall cry out; his life shall be grievous unto him.

5 My heart shall cry out for Moab; his fugitives *shall flee* unto Zoar, an heifer of three years old: for by the mounting up of Luhith with weeping shall they go it up; for in the way of Horonaim they shall raise up a cry of destruction.

6. For the waters of Nimrim shall be desolate: for the hay is withered away, the grass faileth, there is no green thing.

7 Therefore the abundance they have gotten, and that which they have laid up, shall they carry away to the brook of the willows.

8 For the cry is gone round about the borders of Moab; the howling thereof unto Eglaim, and the howling thereof unto Beerelim.

9 For the waters of Dimon shall be full of blood: for I will bring more upon Dimon, lions upon him that escapeth of Moab, and upon the remnant of the land.

CHAPTER 16

SEND ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion.

2 For it shall be, *that*, as a wandering bird cast out of the nest, so the daughters of Moab shall be at the fords of Arnon.

3 Take counsel, execute judgment; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; hide the outcasts; bewray not him that wandereth.

4 Let mine outcasts dwell with thee, Moab; be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler: for the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth, the oppressors are consumed out of the land.

5 And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.

6 ¶ We have heard of the pride of Moab; *he is very proud: even* of his haughtiness, and his pride, and his wrath: *but his lies shall not be so.*

7 Therefore shall Moab howl for Moab, every one shall howl: for the foundations of Kirhareth shall ye mourn; surely *they are* stricken.

8 For the fields of Heshbon lan-

guish, *and* the vine of Sibmah: the lords of the heathen have broken down the principal plants thereof, they are come *even* unto Jazer, they wandered *through* the wilderness: her branches are stretched out, they are gone over the sea.

9 ¶ Therefore I will bewail with the weeping of Jazer the vine of Sibmah: I will water thee with my tears, O Heshbon, and Elealeh: for the shouting for thy summer fruits and for thy harvest is fallen.

10 And gladness is taken away, and joy out of the plentiful field; and in the vineyards there shall be no singing, neither shall there be shouting: the treaders shall tread out no wine in *their* presses; I have made *their vintage* shouting to cease.

11 Wherefore my bowels shall sound like an harp for Moab, and mine inward parts for Kirhareth.

12 ¶ And it shall come to pass, when it is seen that Moab is weary on the high place, that he shall come to his sanctuary to pray; but he shall not prevail.

13 This *is* the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning Moab since that time.

14 But now the LORD hath spoken, saying, Within three years, as

the years of an hireling, and the glory of Moab shall be contemned, with all that great multitude; and the remnant *shall be* very small *and* feeble.

CHAPTER 17

THE burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from *being* a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap.

2 The cities of Aroer *are* forsaken: they shall be for flocks, which shall lie down, and none shall make *them* afraid.

3 The fortress also shall cease from Ephraim, and the kingdom from Damascus, and the remnant of Syria: they shall be as the glory of the children of Israel, saith the LORD of hosts.

4 And in that day it shall come to pass, *that* the glory of Jacob shall be made thin, and the fatness of his flesh shall wax lean.

5 And it shall be as when the harvestman gathereth the corn, and reapeth the ears with his arm; and it shall be as he that gathereth ears in the valley of Rephaim.

6 ¶ Yet gleaning grapes shall be left in it, as the shaking of an olive tree, two *or* three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four *or* five in the outmost fruitful branch-

es thereof, saith the LORD God of Israel.

7 At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel.

8 And he shall not look to the altars, the work of his hands, neither shall respect *that* which his fingers have made, either the groves, or the images.

9 ¶ In that day shall his strong cities be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost branch, which they left because of the children of Israel: and there shall be desolation.

10 Because thou hast forgotten the God of thy salvation, and hast not been mindful of the rock of thy strength, therefore shalt thou plant pleasant plants, and shalt set it with strange slips:

11 In the day shalt thou make thy plant to grow, and in the morning shalt thou make thy seed to flourish: *but* the harvest *shall be* a heap in the day of grief and of desperate sorrow.

12 ¶ Woe to the multitude of many people, *which* make a noise like the noise of the seas; and to the rushing of nations, *that* make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!

13 The nations shall rush like

the rushing of many waters: but *God* shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.

14 And behold at eveningtide trouble; *and* before the morning he *is* not. This *is* the portion of them that spoil us, and the lot of them that rob us.

CHAPTER 18

WOE to the land shadowing with wings, which *is* beyond the rivers of Ethiopia:

2 That sendeth ambassadors by the sea, even in vessels of bulrushes upon the waters, *saying*, Go, ye swift messengers, to a nation scattered and peeled, to a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden down, whose land the rivers have spoiled!

3 All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when

he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.

4 For so the LORD said unto me, I will take my rest, and I will consider in my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs, *and* like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.

5 For afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he shall both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, and take away *and* cut down the branches.

6 They shall be left together unto the fowls of the mountains, and to the beasts of the earth: and the fowls shall summer upon them, and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them.

7 ¶ In that time shall the present be brought unto the LORD of hosts of a people scattered and peeled, and from a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden under foot, whose land the rivers have spoiled, to the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, the mount Zion.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Verses 12-14 of chapter 14 mark the beginning of sin in the universe. Lucifer was once in heaven, and called the son of the morning. Sin began when he said, "I will be like the most High." He was not happy in the position God had placed him, and wanted to be the Supreme Being himself. As a result, Satan was cast out of heaven. Today, he is the prince of the power of the air, and ruler of the world. In verses 12-17 he is actually addressed as the organizer of Babylon's last king. He is very closely associated with Babylon's last ruler, whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power and signs and deceiving wonders. His final destiny is recorded in verse 15, "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."

Verses 18-27 contain the prophecy of the future destruction of the satanic world system. These verses go beyond the destruction of little Babylon and encompass the whole earth (verse 26). All this destruction of satanic rule is in preparation for God's order and the Kingdom, which is guaranteed by God's purpose (verse 27).

Today's reading also covers the judgment upon Moab. Moab was to be pitilessly desolated (chapters 15:1—16:9). Her arrogance and pride would be humbled by terrible devastation from Assyria (chapter 16:10-14).

In chapter 17 we see the judgment upon Damascus and Samaria. Damascus and Ephraim (the Northern Kingdom) would be desolated (verses 1-3), but eventually Samaria would yield a remnant of true believers who would not follow idolatry. Chastening, however, must precede blessings, and in verses 12-14 the Assyrian invasion is predicted.

Chapter 18 records the judgment upon Ethiopia. The prophet apprises Ethiopian ambassadors that the birds of prey would feed upon their corpses rotting on the battlefield. Ethiopia and her powerful king had sway over all Egypt at that time. This chapter is not a prophecy of doom. Rather, it seems to refer to the excitement and call to arms among the Ethiopians at the advance of Sennacherib's army into Judah, whose fall would leave the gateway open for the Assyrian march into Egypt (verses 1-3). In verses 4-6 we see the miraculous deliverance of Jerusalem.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"When the righteous are in authority, the people

rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn" (Proverbs 29:2).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 26: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 9.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1883

THE BIRTHDAY OF BENITO MUSSOLINI.

1905

THE BIRTHDAY OF DAG HAMMARSKJOLD.

1914

THE CAPE COD CANAL WAS OPENED.

1928

THE DATE OF THE CONVERSION OF DR. MONROE PARKER.

What a wonderful testimony to the grace of God he had!

1929

DR. MONROE PARKER WAS LICENSED TO PREACH THE GOSPEL.

What a preacher! Dr. Parker was an evangelist. So we turn our attention again to evangelists. Pray for some by name. God bless this great group of warriors of the Cross and especially the ministry of dear Dr. Parker.

1955

PLANS FOR THE FIRST EARTH CIRCLING SATELLITE WERE ANNOUNCED.

It was to be launched in 1957.

PRAISE THE LORD TODAY.

For one thing, each of us who has good health and whose families are in good health should praise the Lord Jesus today for this unspeakable blessing.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1970

ONE PERSON WAS KILLED in six days of rioting in Hartford, Connecticut.

The Story of the Psalms

PSALMS 64

AUTHOR: David

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

Read this Psalm and decide for yourself the circumstances involved in its writing. Notice in verse 1 the words, “Preserve my life from fear of the enemy.” Notice in verse 2 the words, “Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity.” Notice in verse 3, “Who whet their tongue like a sword.” Continue to read the Psalm and you will easily find that this is another of the Psalms written by David when his son was busy spreading untruths and gathering an army with which to conquer the kingdom and ascend the throne. The criticism of his son and his dear friends was almost more than he could take.

In a certain church there was a lady who would spread wicked rumors about the church and the preacher. One day she repented of this evil, came to the pastor and sought his forgiveness. He was not as jubilant about her decision as she thought he should be and she asked him why. He then suggested that she take a feather pillow to the top of the church steeple, cut a hole in the pillow, shake it and let the feathers be blown all over the neighborhood. Then he requested her to go over the entire city, pick up every feather, put each one back into the pillow case and bring it to him. She was stunned and said, “Pastor, there is no way in the world I could find all those feathers no matter how hard I try,” whereupon he said, “And there’s no way in the world that you can bring back all the harm that you have done through your gossip no matter how much you repent!”

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD’S PEOPLE:

When criticized by those who were loved the most, the people read Psalm 64.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

QUALIFICATION FOR ANSWERED PRAYER

(Assignment 26)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

Delight

() Psalm 37:4

Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Abide

() John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Receive

() 1 John 3:22

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Succeed

() 1 John 5:14-15

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.