

ISAIAH 32-33

Sunday, August 14, 2016

Ch. 32 – THE CONTRAST OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WITH WICKEDNESS

Intro to chapter – “One severe problem Isaiah faced was the imperfections of Judah’s government which ranged from the faithless idolatry promoted by King Ahaz to the well meant but sometimes misguided policies of King Hezekiah. Influential but unrighteous politicians unworthy of their posts compounded the governmental woes of Isaiah’s Jerusalem” (Woods, 136). – cf. 1:21-23; 22:15-25; 28:7-8, 14-15; 29:15-16; 30:1-2, 15-16

“A welcome vision, therefore, was the picture Isaiah glimpsed of a future regime of righteousness, justice, and peace in Jerusalem. This theme, which is elsewhere set forth in sharper detail (2:1-4; 9:1-7; 11:1-10), is implicitly Messianic, its ultimate fulfillment being found in the spiritual reign of King Jesus” (Woods, 136).

I. THE REIGN OF KING JESUS (32:1-8)

- A. 32:1 - “Princes” – “Princes are not necessarily of royal parentage, but they are of noble birth and royal dignity. If our contention that the King is the Messiah is correct, could not the princes be Christians?” (Hailey, 268).

II. A WARNING TO ISRAEL’S WOMEN (32:9-14)

III. THE POURING OUT OF THE SPIRIT (32:15-20)

- A. 32:20 – “The well-watered land would produce so abundantly that farm animals could be allowed to graze among the crops without their activity noticeably reducing the land’s bounty” (Woods, 139).

Ch. 33 – PRESENT DISTRESS, BUT FUTURE VICTORY

I. PRAYER AND PROMISE (33:1-12)

- A. 33:6 – “Judah’s real treasure ... lay not in silver and gold, as the people had vainly imagined (2:7), but in the nation’s fear of the Lord, and a redeemed Zion would recognize this truth” (Woods, 140).
- B. 33:12 – “Burning of lime” – “Complete burning of bones produced a white ash similar in appearance to lime (compare Amos 2:1). Literally ‘burning of lime,’ the text may here allude to the intense fire involved in the production of lime from limestone” (Woods, 141).

II. THE RIGHTEOUS DELIVERED (33:13-16)

III. FUTURE BLESSINGS OF THE REIGN OF KING JESUS (33:17-24)

- A. “In the Assyrian crisis the people had witnessed disheartening scenes – a king humiliated and near despair (37:1), a land overrun and constricted, and a capital city fearful for its survival. In God’s glorious future, they would behold the very opposite of these conditions (verses 17, 19, 20)” (Woods, 142).
- B. 33:19 – “This description fits only the Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem with God in its midst, to which the saints come under the Messiah (Heb. 12:22)” (Hailey).