

ISAIAH 34-35
Sunday, August 28, 2016

Ch. 34 – WRATH ON THE NATIONS

“Chapters 34 and 35 actually form a unit in which is revealed the judgment of the Lord on His enemies, as well as the future glories of spiritual Israel” (Jackson, 54).

The two chapters really form two contrasts – chapter 34 is a picture of death and destruction; chapter 35 is a picture of life and prosperity.

I. THE SENTENCING OF GOD’S WRATH (34:1-4)

- A. “He is describing in strong metaphor the end of the world for the heathen nations. When God's wrath and indignation come against the nations that oppose and fight him, their world comes to an end” (Hailey, 288).
- B. “All the host of heaven shall be dissolved” (34:4) – “Comparison with 13:10-13 and 24:21-23 suggests that here also cosmic imagery is employed to picture general judgment upon the nations (and perhaps their protector astral deities), not the last great judgment upon all maTnkind” (Clyde Woods, 145).

II. FOCUS ON EDOM AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF HOSTILE FORCES AGAINST GOD’S PEOPLE AND PURPOSE (35:5-17)

- A. Total Destruction (34:5-7)
- B. Devastation Like Sodom and Gomorrah (34:8-12)
- C. Capital City to be Desolate (35:13-15)
- D. The Prophecy is Certain (35:16-17)

Ch. 35 – THE JOY OF THE REDEEMED:

I. WILDERNESS TRANSFORMED AND BLOSSOMING (35:1-2)

II. THE LORD’S COMING (35:3-4)

III. THE DISABLED ARE HEALED (35:5-6)

- A. Compare Matthew 11:5 – “Our Lord Jesus appears to borrow this language from Isaiah to describe his healing ministry, which was, of course, the documentation for his saving ministry” (Jackson, 55).

IV. THE REDEEMED COME TO RIGHTEOUS ZION (35:7-10)