

August 2nd Sunday 2015

Text: Isaiah 17:1 – 14

Topic: The Mighty One Of Israel

The people of Damascus failed to honour the true God of Israel, and this led to the destruction of their city. All efforts to form alliances, and to make human plans without the Lord, failed woefully. The God of Israel is the Lord of hosts, the Lord Almighty who controls the affairs of the universe.

The prophet here foresees a day when people, especially the people of Damascus, will finally recognize their folly and turn to the true God for deliverance. They will forsake their manmade idols and repent from all forms of idolatry.

Lesson: The people of old trusted in earthly things and achievements to their detriment when we look to our maker, the Holy One of Israel, he will save us.

Prayer: Help us Lord never to rely on the earthly things which surround us, never to forget the rock of our salvation, but to depend and acknowledge you in all things.

August 3rd Monday 2015

Text: Isaiah 18:1 –

Topic: Plight of the proud

Assyria, who has persistently prided herself and heavily depended on her might and wealth, is here depicted as “a ripening vine that will never survive” because the Lord himself will cut it down. The Lord has foreseen that without being crushed, they will never acknowledge him as their Lord. That he is the supreme God over all, who deserved to be worshipped.

Despite God's plan to crush them, he is pictured by the prophet as very patient and calm. He is just waiting for the right time of judgment, a time when he will “cut off the shoots”. There is nothing we do that is not known to him. The fact that he does not act swiftly when we commit sin, is because he is giving us a chance to repent and change our ways. All our efforts are futile if they do not recognize and acknowledge His supremacy over us.

Lesson: All our carnal and spiritual struggles will amount to nothing, if the supremacy of God is not acknowledged. A time will surely come when God's banner will be raised and all will see it, even those who refuse to recognize him as their Lord.

Prayer: We pray dear Lord, that when your banner is raised we shall come to you with joy and gladness.

August 4th Tuesday 2015

Text: Isaiah 19:1 – 16

Topic: The Lord Reigneth

This time God will visit Egypt himself, to deliver judgment in righteousness. All the mighty and numerous idols of Egypt will tremble and bow down before Him. The heart of the Egyptian will begin to rise against each other, consulting idols and all sort of spirits, but to know avail.

They will be handed over to all their enemies by the Almighty. Their economy will crumble because the Nile, their only source of livelihood, will dry up. They have for long

depended on their might, but when the Lord raises his hand, it cannot save them. Today, like the Egyptian, many people depend on their might of wealth, might of educational advancement and scientific achievement without acknowledging the supremacy of God. This will only bring destruction when the Lord moves His hand against them.

Lesson: We must totally bow to His majesty by surrendering to his Lordship over us in all we do and all we have.

Prayer: Father, there is no like you. Give us the grace to live our lives in total submission to you.

August 5th Wednesday 2015

Text: Isaiah 19:17 – 25

Topic: All Must Bow Before Him

Many scholars consider this passage to be the most important prophetic utterance concerning Egypt. It declares that one day the enemy nations of Egypt, Israel and Assyria will be united in the worship of the one and only true God. Egypt will finally accept the God of Israel and Syria will also bow to Him. Looking at the circumstances surrounding us today, it seems impossible for these nations to come to terms with each other, but with God all things are possible.

When this happens, all kingdoms will bow to the king of kings, the mighty one of the Israel. All idols will tremble before Him and all powers on earth will bow down before Him.

Lesson: Egypt will bow when the Lords hand finally break them to total obedience. Let us not wait until God break us in a hard way before we acknowledge his authority over us.

Prayer: I pray dear Lord, that even before the Day of Judgment; I will bow and acknowledge you as the savior of my soul. Amen

August 6th Thursday 2015

Text: Isaiah 22:1 – 4

Topic: The Righteous Judge

The Lord is a righteous, just and impartial God. Even though Jerusalem is the city of God, He will not spare her for her sins. The people of Judah were behaving like their pagan neighbours and they will also be judged. They have gone on the rooftops to worship other gods and to make alliance with pagan nations, who do not acknowledge the mighty God. They did not live to please God, but were confident that since they are the chosen people of God, He will always deliver them from their enemies. So instead of fasting for their nation, they were feasting and would not listen to those God had sent to warn them. The people of Judah went into captivity because of their unbelief and sins.

Lesson: No sin or unbelief will go unpunished by God, no matter who commits it, God did not spare the people of Israel when they sinned, even thou they His chosen people. It is only confessed sins that will not be punished

Prayer: Lord father, you are a righteous and just God. Help us to repent of every sin we have committed in our life.

August 7th Friday 2015**Text: Isaiah 22:15 – 25****Topic: Unfaithful Leaders**

Shebna was a leader who thought only of himself and many of the leaders of Israel were like him. He used his position to acquire wealth and build monuments. All the leaders wanted was to make money and never cared to call the people to repentance.

Eliakim on the other hand, was a God-fearing leader who could be depended upon. He represents the picture of Jesus Christ who is the greatest and most true servant of God ever. Those in position should learn from Eliakim who stood for the truth alone.

Lesson: It is never foolish to be truthful even when all around us approve of corruption. Corrupt leadership leads to destruction.

Prayer: Help us dear God, even in the midst of corruption and decay to be true and faithful before you and before people. Amen

August 8th Saturday 2015**Text: Isaiah 23:1 – 9****Topic: Pride Brought Down**

Tyre was a very wealthy city who prided herself so much in her wealth and splendor. They became so proud of their wealth that they did not recognize God, who made the heaven and the earth. Their pride was so much that the Lord raised His hand against them and their wealth scattered.

God is in control of the nations of the world and even individuals. No detail is hidden from Him and because He is sovereign, He can deal with all nations and individuals as He pleases. No matter how frightening the national and international situations may be, we don't have to worry since the sovereign God is on the throne.

Lesson: When the sovereign and Almighty God is your father and you gladly bear Christ's yoke, you have nothing to fear.

Prayer: Father, even when the nations and people plot evil against us, we will not fear, because we know our sovereign father is on the throne. Amen.