

The Repercussions of Forgetting God

Text: Isaiah 17-18

Date: 4-25-21 @ 10:30 AM

When a nation forgets God, they place themselves in position for His judgment to be upon them. Even though a nation may forget God, individuals who follow God must continue to pursue a whole-hearted desire to fear His name (Psalm 86:11).

I. The fall of Damascus (Syria) (Isa. 17:1-3).

***The repercussion of _____.**

These nations would fall as the once proud alliance would crumble against the backdrop of the Lord's unalterable decree.

II. The fall of Israel (Isa. 17:4-6).

***The repercussion of _____.**

Those who walk away from Jehovah's word will reap a whirlwind of dearth and destruction. Even if man "succeeds" without God on this earth, all that will be left in eternity is hopelessness and pain.

"No matter how fruitful and loaded with olives the tree might have been, the shaking would leave only a few gleanings remaining" (Young 470). **All that would be left would be what was left at the top indicating that the nations' judgment would reflect a thorough gleaning.**

Over a period of a few hundred years, the nation went from Joshua to the judges, from David to the split kingdom, from living and loving the truth to living for themselves and loving false gods. **The danger of forgetting God is not only an affront to the people's Maker, but it leaves the person without an anchor to guide them through the seas of life. Forgetting God actually becomes a judgment unto itself.**

When a person makes every attempt to do life alone, the end is always folly, grief, and a bitter conclusion.

III. The hope of a nation (Isa. 17:7-8).

When we sin, we must also acknowledge that the steps to fellowship with our Maker begin with true confession and repentance. Sometimes it takes severe pain and judgment for us to wake up and see that what we are doing offends a holy and righteous God. We must then choose to look keenly, not to man, but to our Maker.

Those who truly trust God will not trust in gods.

IV. The Assyrian invasion (Isa. 17:12-14).

*The repercussion of _____ .

V. Judgment against Ethiopia (18:1-7).

*The repercussion of _____ .

God rests until the perfect time to intervene in the situation. God will now act and will prune the branches. While evil grows, God is planning behind the scenes.

Even as wickedness increases around us, we must trust God to be in complete control. He will only allow evil to go so far.

Conclusion

Let's be reminded of the dangers of forgetting God:

- *The repercussion of defeat
- *The repercussion of languishing.
- *The repercussion of great sorrow.
- *The repercussion of bad alliances.

Ask yourself: Is forgetting God worth it?