

The Certainty of the Final Judgment

Text: Isaiah 34

Date: 3-13-22 @ 10:30 AM

Truth: No matter how much the nations attempt to overthrow God, He will demonstrate His sovereignty, manifested in judgment and salvation. Edom proves that God keeps His word and that, in the future, God will destroy all the nations of the world. Yet, Jehovah patiently waits for every single last person to repent.

I. **Jehovah calls the nations for the purpose of dispelling His wrath upon them (Isa. 34:1-2).**

II. **Jehovah judges the nations with devastating results (Isa. 34:3-4).**

“When God’s wrath and indignation come against the nations that oppose and fight Him, their world comes to an end” (Hailey 288).

III. **Jehovah singles out Edom as an example of the disastrous fate that awaits the entire world (Isa. 34:5-7).**

“Because Edom became a perpetual enemy of Israel (cf. comments on Ezek. 35; 36:5), she was an appropriate example of what the Lord will do to all nations that fight against His people”.¹ Edom’s root issue was pride, but the reasons that this nation was under God’s judgment stemmed from their actions against Israel. Edom had battled against Israel for some time. Edom was more than a warring nation, they were family to Israel. Edom was a descendant of Esau while Israel was a descendant of Jacob. Edom was the estranged brother of Israel.

Edom may well be symbolic of all the enemies of the Lord and represent the heathen nations as a whole.

Young says, “The blood-red sin of rebellion demands a blood-red punishment of judgment” (433).

IV. **Jehovah’s afflicts Edom on behalf of His people (Isa. 34:8-15).**

Isaiah now gives the specific cause for the judgment: **The Lord is enacting revenge due to Edom’s hostility towards His people.**

God is judging on behalf of or to uphold Zion’s cause. “Having promised to bless His Chosen People, He must fulfill His promises. Therefore when they are attacked He goes to their aid”.²

We must not think of man-made and imperfect repayment; rather, this is perfect and divine vengeance. This is not done out of evil or malice, but based on Jehovah’s perfect justice.

“The description of a waste and desolate land is complete. But it is more than the description of a land; it portrays life which God has abandoned to its sin” (Hailey 292).

Edom represents the world and the picture is that “such a life burns as with the fires of hell; it is a place fit only for the unclean and loathsome [abhorrent or vile], an abomination to God and the righteous” (Hailey 292).

V. **The certainty of Jehovah’s judgment (Isa. 34:16-17).**

Over and over God had promised blessing and deliverance to His people if they would follow and obey Him. Yet He also states with certainty that destruction and judgment will befall a sinful nation based on the authority of the Word of God.

When God works, His actions will be fulfilled to their fullest, His work will be precisely done, and His word perfectly kept. By the hand of Jehovah, judgment will befall Israel’s enemies. By the word of Jehovah all enemies will be vanquished.

¹ Martin, J. A. (1985). [Isaiah](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 1084). Victor Books.

² *ibid*