

# Hope Amidst the Doom

Text: Isaiah 10:20-34

Date: 12-6-20 @ 10:30 am

**Truth: While judgment is found in the hand of God, so also the hope of the remnant rests in the unchanging promises of Jehovah-Jireh.**

## **I. The remnant's return home and the return to Jehovah (Isa. 10:20-23).**

**While Assyria's remnant was a few trees (v. 19), the remnant of the Jews would be as large as the promises of God.**

Genesis 3:15 promised that the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head, and for that to happen, a remnant must be saved. **The believing Jews will not lean upon Assyria; rather, they would return to the God of their salvation.**

The mighty God points to the coming Messiah. That is whom the remnant placed their trust in. That very promise led them to believe that their salvation would be under this Child the Mighty God. The Mighty God had already been named as the One who would sit upon the throne. To turn to *el gibbor* meant to turn to the Lord Himself (Hosea 3:5).

God had never promised that all the heirs of Abraham would be saved. But those who were saved are spoken of here as the believing remnant. Paul uses this passage in Rom. 9:27 to speak of all [believing] Israel being saved.

**"Eternal punishment is a manifestation of justice against which no valid objection can be raised" (Young 370). The consequences of our sins place us in the direct wrath of God. Yet true deliverance can be found when the remnant returns to the Mighty God. In Christ alone, my hope is found!**

"There is nothing automatic about salvation, it does not come by virtue of race but by grace, and God is no respecter of persons" (Buksbazen 177).

## **II. The result for the remnant is one of hope not gloom (Isa. 10:24-27).**

**While there was certain judgment, there was also certain deliverance.**

God always has a good reason to tell His people to not fear. Soon, God will end the Assyrians as fast as He allowed their onslaught to unfold. God's wrath is truly slow. His anger here has an end.

## **III. The Assyrian march to Jerusalem (Isa. 10:28-32).**

With precision Isaiah lays out the relentless march of Assyria towards Judah's capital. Here is a picture of the enemy coming in judgment upon the Jews. It's as if Isaiah is able to see for miles, the march of the enemy towards Jerusalem. From north to south Isaiah's vision is of these cities being attacked and defeated by the Assyrian war machine.

Sennacherib will close in on the holy city. Nob was a close city, but this will be the place where Judah will win the battle.

It is at this moment of apparent doom that the Lord of hosts will rescue His people. Just as the final death blow is to come down, God stops the mighty Assyrian army. "God is in the midst of the city, and no world power can be victorious against the Lord of hosts who dwells in Zion. The earthly Zion may go, but the Zion of the people of God abides forever" (Young 376).

**How will the battle end? Will Jerusalem fall? We interrupt this broadcast to find. . .**

#### **IV. God's miraculous victory (Isa. 10:33-34).**

Behold! Look! Isaiah now interrupts with a stunning declaration! In the end Assyria's mission would fail. The Lord God of hosts, Jehovah Sabaoth, will cut off the branches with awesome power.

**Summary:** The nation led by Ahaz had trusted in the enemy, turned to idolatry, and relied on false leadership. Those bad choices landed them in captivity to their enemies. The remnant, on the other hand, trusted in Jehovah, in truth. Their hope was in the Creator, covenant-making and -keeping God, not in a world leader.

Every other person, nation, and army ultimately offers little in the way of protection. Here Assyria was an aggressor and not a protector. To trust in this invader's protection is folly at best and plain stupidity at worst. But there is coming a time where Israel will no longer trust in those that attack her; rather, they will lean on the Lord in truth. This turning will not be a counterfeit one and will not be done in hypocrisy. This turning will be characterized by sincerity and steadfastness, a turning in truth. This will be done wholeheartedly with a complete eye on God.

#### **How does Isaiah 10:20-34 apply to us?**

1. A true foundation of faith rests in the unlocked promises of God for our lives.
2. When our hope is found in anyone or anything other than God, the place that we trust is as precarious as the Titanic sinking in the Atlantic Ocean.
3. The absolute sovereignty and power of Jehovah has no match from any of the world's empires past, present, or future.