

## God's Judgment on Y'hudah and Yerushalayim ~ Part 1 Yesha'yahu 3:1-6

In my last post, we concluded our look at **The Coming Day of the Lord** in **Yesha'yahu 2:18-22**. In this post, we begin our look at **God's Judgment on Y'hudah and Yerushalayim** beginning in **Yesha'yahu 3:1-6**.

***<sup>1</sup> For see! The Lord, Adonai-Tzva'ot, will remove from Yerushalayim and Y'hudah every kind of support - all reserves of food and water; <sup>2</sup> heroes and warriors, judges and prophets, diviners and leaders, <sup>3</sup> captains of fifty, men of rank and advisers, skillful magicians and expert enchanters.***

Since God's people trust in humans (see Isaiah 2:22) rather than in Him, He will remove from them every kind of security. Not only would there be a lack of food and water, but there would be a dearth of leaders, of mighty men, knowledgeable men, wise men, and skilled men.

Siege warfare was designed to isolate a city and create a blockade that would eventually force a surrender. With the enemy camped around the city, the fields could not be harvested for their food supply. No one could get in to bring in food, so the people in the city had to live on whatever had been stockpiled in the city. If the water source for the city were a well or spring outside the city walls, the siege would be short, for the cisterns would quickly run dry. **Yerushalayim** had a water supply that could be accessed from inside the city walls. To survive a siege would require capable leadership that could keep morale high and successfully manages food rationing.

***<sup>4</sup> I will put children in authority; capriciousness will govern them. <sup>5</sup> People will oppress each other - everyone his friend, everyone his neighbor. The young will be insolent toward their elders, the insignificant arrogant toward the respected. <sup>6</sup> A man will take hold of his brother in his father's house and say, "You have a coat, so rule us! Take charge of this ruin!" <sup>7</sup> But on that day, he will protest, "I don't have a remedy, I lack food and clothing for my own house; don't put me in charge of people!"***

With the removal of the leaders in whom the people trust comes the installation of youths to replace them. The result will be social chaos and oppression.

Whether regarding the last days of the ten tribes or the last days of our society, children will rule. We see that happening to a degree even now, for, in many countries of the world, it is the students who bring down governments. There was a time when gray hair was highly esteemed. Now, however, it is the opinion of younger generations that seems to be most highly valued in our culture.

In Israelite society, the oldest active male was the head of the household. He typically represented the family in the community and made the decisions for the family. As a result, the senior members of the family usually commanded a high degree of respect and honor.

In such a disorderly society, it did not take much to be a leader among men. In the vignette described in these verses, the people are so unwilling and unfit to lead that a man will be pressed into a leadership role just because he has a coat. But what would be left for him to lead? Only a heap of rubble.

In my next post, we will continue to explore **God's Judgment on Y'hudah and Yerushalayim ~ Part 2** in **Yesha'yahu 3:7-15**.