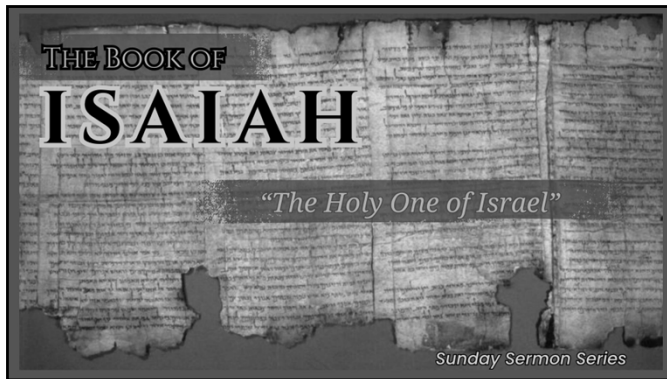
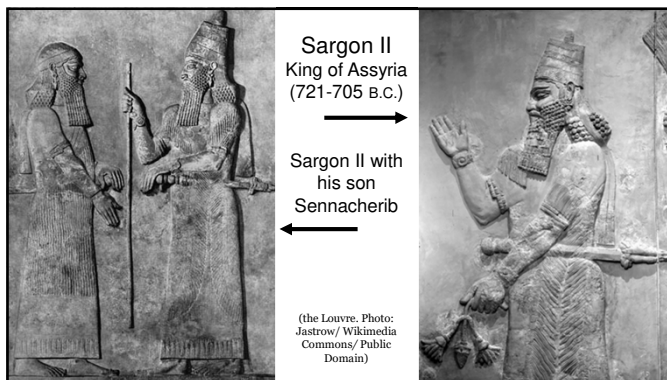




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3

Isaiah 20:1-6

¹ In the year that the commander came to Ashdod, when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him and he fought against Ashdod and captured it, ² at that time the LORD spoke through Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, "Go and loosen the sackcloth from your hips and take your shoes off your feet." And he did so, going naked and barefoot. ³ And the LORD said, "Even as My servant Isaiah has gone naked and barefoot three years as a sign and token against Egypt and Cush, ⁴ so the king of Assyria will lead away the captives of Egypt and the exiles of Cush, young and old, naked and barefoot with buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt."

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Isaiah 20:1-6

⁵ Then they will be dismayed and ashamed because of Cush their hope and Egypt their boast. ⁶ So the inhabitants of this coastland will say in that day, 'Behold, such is our hope, where we fled for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria; and we, how shall we escape?'"

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Isaiah 20:1-6

➤ Context

1. Historical – Sargon, King of Assyria, conquered the Philistine city of Ashdod in 711 B.C.



(Fragment of the Sargon II inscription found at Ashdod)

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Isaiah 20:1-6

➤ Context

1. Historical – Sargon, King of Assyria, conquered the Philistine city of Ashdod in 711 B.C.
2. Biblical – a dramatic portrayal of Isaiah's oracle concerning the demise of Egypt – don't trust in Egypt for deliverance!

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Folly of Trusting Egypt

1. A Peculiar Sign

- Isaiah goes naked and barefoot for three years as a way of acting out the plight of captives
- Isaiah fully obeys this unusual command – he fully trusts in God's word

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Folly of Trusting Egypt

2. A Surprising Interpretation

- Isaiah has been portraying the plight of Egypt/Cush; the unreliable power behind Ashdod
- the state of the captives ("naked") would exposed the state of the nation ("naked" – disgraced)

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Folly of Trusting Egypt

3. A Poignant Application

- any nation, like Judah, that puts their trust in Egypt will likewise be humiliated and ashamed
- all such "hope" is ultimately hopeless and will lead to inescapable ruin – hope in Yahweh alone!

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Folly of Trusting Egypt

➤ Application

1. Do we trust the Bible as God's infallible word?
 - this near fulfillment of Egypt's conquest shows that these world powers are subject to the Lord's word – His word is trustworthy for "that day"

Q: Is our belief evidenced in obedience to and an unshakable hope in His word?

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Folly of Trusting Egypt

➤ Application

2. Is our ultimate trust in Yahweh alone?
 - in the face of fear and insurmountable threat, the Lord called Judah to trust Him for deliverance – is He our ultimate trust?

Q: What do our present anxieties and future insecurities reveal about our trust? Where do we find security?

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