

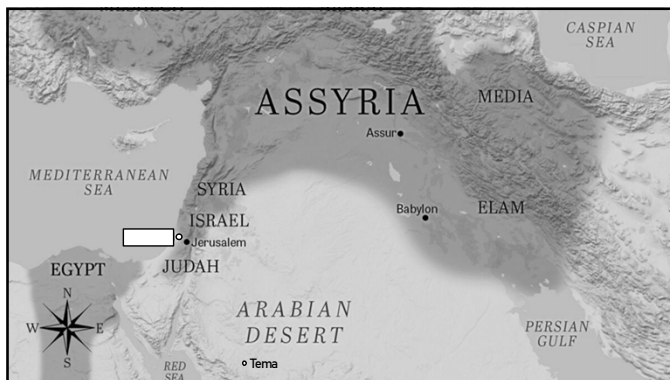


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The Lord of History (Isaiah 28-35)

- setting – Assyria's (King Sennacherib) looming invasion of Judah/Jerusalem (705-701B.C.); Hezekiah's alliance with Egypt for help (31:1)

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The Lord of History (Isaiah 28-35)

- setting – Assyria's (King Sennacherib) looming invasion of Judah/Jerusalem (704-701B.C.); Hezekiah's alliance with Egypt for help (31:1)
- message – demonstrates that Yahweh rules world history, so that His as yet unfulfilled promises and purposes are certain

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Foolish Leaders & False Hope

1. Ephraim: a present illustration (v.1-6)
 - as Isaiah predicted, Samaria has been destroyed by the Lord's irresistible agent for its pride and godless revelry
 - while the Lord brings judgment, He will keep His word to preserve His people – Yahweh Himself will be their beautiful crown "in that day"

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Foolish Leaders & False Hope

2. Judah: a refusal of God's word (v.7-22)
 - a) A babbling word
 - the stewards of God's revelation (prophet and priest) make a mockery of His word
 - as a result the Lord will speak to them through the babbling speech of foreign conquerors

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Foolish Leaders & False Hope

2. Judah: a refusal of God's word (v.7-22)

b) A covenant with death

- Judah's false hope in an alliance with Egypt is actually a covenant with death
- the day of God's overwhelming judgment will be only terror, removing all lies and false hopes
- do not scoff – this coming destruction is definite and decisive

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Foolish Leaders & False Hope

3. A Farmer: parable of God's wisdom (v.23-29)

- trust in God's wise and wonderful counsel given by His word
- God will act purposefully in history with divine discriminating wisdom

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Foolish Leaders & False Hope

➤ A Sure Foundation Stone (v.16)

- in contrast to all false hopes, God Himself has provided an unshakable security and unhurried rest in Zion
- this cornerstone is ultimately the Lord Jesus – He is the foundation of the new people of God and the stone of stumbling

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⁴ And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For *this* is contained in Scripture:
 "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER *stone*,
 AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."
⁷ This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve,
 "THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED,
 THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER *stone*,"
⁸ and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE";
 for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this *doom* they were also appointed. (1 Peter 2:4-8)

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