

ISAIAH 30-32 | Quietness and Trust Forever

Text: Isaiah 30-32

EP: Regarding Assyria, the reason Israel should trust in God rather than Egypt is because Egypt is powerless but God is powerful.

TP: Regarding the crises of our lives, the we should trust in God rather than human solutions is because human solutions fail but God succeeds.

Props: Red dots, A4 problem print outs.

1. Church Participation.

- a. Place one dot on the three biggest anxieties/stressors in your life.
- b. If you would like to add another stressor, there are blank sheets and tape.

2. Biblical Story.

- a. We are living in a great drama, the greatest story ever told. Jesus is main character, and we each have a part to play in the story.
- b. The Bible reveals the story and informs us how to play our part well.
- c. Gospel Diagram.

3. Situation in Isaiah's Time.

- a. The rise of Assyria is *the* problem in the Middle East of Isaiah's day.
- b. *Isaiah at a Glance*.
- c. In Is 28-33, there are six woes:
 - (1) Woe to Ephraim (Is 28:1-13).
 - (2) Woe to Judah (Is 28:14-29).
 - (3) Woe to Jerusalem (Is 29).
 - (4) Woe to the Obstinate Children (Is 30)
 - (5) Woe to the Egyptian Alliance (Is 31-32).
 - (6) Woe to the Destroyers (Is 33).
- d. Remember why Isaiah is important:
 - (1) If we never read or study the Old Testament, we won't be like Jesus or the apostles.
 - (2) "The OT is the NT concealed. The NT is the OT revealed."
 - (3) **Ro 15:4** 4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

4. Connection to Our Own Day.

- a. The preaching triangle helps us bring alive the Bible in our own lives in our own time.
- b. The six Rs still apply: Rebellion, Retribution, Revelation, Repentance, Redemption, Restoration.
- c. Like Isaiah, we live in a time when man's failure is obvious, and the promised Messiah is needed.
- d. We are in a better position than Isaiah because we know the Messiah has already come once. We know who he is.

5. Whose Your Assyria?

- a. Let's examine the results of our poll...

6. Whose Your Egypt?

- a. Egypt represents the human solutions to the major stressors in our lives.
 - (1) **Is 30:1-5** 1 Ah, stubborn children (בְּנֵי), declares Yahweh, who carry out a plan, but not mine, and who weave a web, but not of my Spirit (רוּחַ), that they may add sin (חַטָּאת) to sin (חַטָּאת), 2 who set out to go down to Egypt [around 701 bc], without asking for my direction/mouth (פִּי), to take refuge in the protection of Pharaoh and to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt!
 - (2) **Is 31:1-3** 1 Woe (וָי) to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult Yahweh! ...3 The Egyptians are man, and not God, and their horses are flesh, and not spirit.
- b. An indication we are turning from God to human solutions is our neglect of God's word for other sources of information.
 - (1) **Is 30:9-12** 9 For they [Israel] are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of Yahweh, 10 who say to the seers, Do not see, and to the prophets, Do not prophesy to us straightforwardness/righteousness (יֶשְׁעָה). Speak to us smooth/false words (דְּבָרִים). Prophecy illusions/deceptions (מִתְהַלְּלִים). 11 Leave the way. Turn aside from the path. Let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel. 12 Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, Because you refuse/reject (מָאָס) this word (דְּבָרִי)....
 - (2) How's your Bible study and prayer life during Covid? Are you spending hours watching videos from doctors in the U.S. or reading your Bible and praying?
- c. The consequence of turning to human solutions rather than God is:
 - (1) Shame and disgrace.
 - (a) **Is 30:3-5** 3 Therefore shall the protection of Pharaoh turn to your shame, and the shelter in the shadow of Egypt to your humiliation. 4 For though his officials are at Zoan and his envoys reach Hanes, 5 everyone comes to shame through a people that cannot profit them, that brings neither help nor profit, but shame and disgrace.
 - (2) Wasting our money.
 - (a) **Is 30:6** 6 An oracle on the beasts of the Negeb. Through a land of trouble and anguish, from where come the lioness and the lion, the adder and the flying fiery serpent, they carry their riches on the backs of donkeys, and their treasures on the humps of camels, to a people that cannot profit them.
 - (3) Cowardice.
 - (a) **Is 30:16** 16 And you said, No! We will flee upon horses. Therefore you shall flee away. And, We will ride upon swift steeds. Therefore your pursuers shall be swift. 17 A thousand shall flee at the threat of one. At the threat of five you shall flee....
 - (4) Failure.
 - (a) **Is 31:3** 3 The Egyptians are man, and not God, and their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When Yahweh stretches out his hand, the helper will stumble, and he who is helped will fall, and they will all perish together.

7. God's Invitation.

- a. Sit still, be quiet, and trust God.
 - a. **Is 30:15** 15 For thus says Lord Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel, In turning back/sitting still (שׁוּבָה) and calm/peace/patience (נְחִיחַ) you shall be saved/receive help/be victorious (יִשֶׁע). In quietness/peace/rest (שְׁקֵט) and in confidence/trust (בְּטִחָה) shall be your strength/power (גְּבוּרָה). But you were unwilling (אָבָה).
- b. Wait for God.
 - a. **Is 30:18** 18 Therefore Yahweh waits (חָכָה) to be gracious (חֲנּוּן) to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy (רַחֵם) to you. For Yahweh is a God of justice (מִשְׁפָּט). Blessed (אַשְׁרֵי) are all those who wait (חָכָה) for him.
- c. Look to God and consult him.
 - (1) **Is 31:1-3** 1 Woe (הוֹי) to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult Yahweh!
- d. Turn to God.
 - (1) **Is 31:6-7** 6 Turn (שׁוּב) to him from whom people have deeply revolted, children of Israel. 7 For in that day everyone shall cast away/discard/spurn/despise/refuse (מָאַס) his idols of silver and his idols of gold, which your hands have sinfully made for you.
- e. Shelter others in nobility.
 - (1) **Is 32:1-8** 1 Behold, a king will rule in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice. 2 Each will be like a hiding place from the wind, a shelter from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a weary land. 3 Then the eyes of those who see will not be closed, and the ears of those who hear will give attention. 4 The heart of the hasty will understand and know, and the tongue of the stammerers will hasten to speak distinctly. ... 8 But he who is noble (נְדִיב) plans noble (נְדִיבָה) things, and on noble (נְדִיבָה) things he stands.
 - (2) CBSNews, "Dads spend time in Louisiana high school," <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/dads-louisiana-high-school-student-violence/>

8. The Benefits of Trusting in God.

- a. Jesus, our Teacher, will show up.
 - (1) **Is 30:20** 20 And though Yahweh give you the bread of anxiety (צָר) and the water of oppression (לְחָץ), yet your Master Teacher (מוֹרֶה) will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Master Teacher.
- b. The Holy Spirit will guide us.
 - (1) **Is 30:21** 21 And your ears shall hear a word (דְּבָר) behind you saying, This is the way (דֶּרֶךְ), walk (הֵלֵךְ) in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.
- c. We will get rid of the idols, the God-substitutes, of our lives.
 - (1) **Is 30:22** 22 Then you will defile your carved idols overlaid with silver and your gold-plated metal images. You will scatter them as unclean things. You will say to them, Be gone!
- d. God will bless us supernaturally.
 - a. **Is 30:23-25** 23 And he [the Master Teacher] will give rain for the seed with which you sow the ground, and bread, the produce of the ground, which will be rich and

plenteous. In that day your livestock will graze in large pastures, 24 and the oxen and the donkeys that work the ground will eat seasoned fodder that has been winnowed with shovel and fork. 25 And on every lofty mountain and every high hill there will be brooks running with water, in the day of the great slaughter (קְיֹום הַהֲרָגָה), when the towers fall.

- e. Healing.
 - a. **Is 30:26** 26 Moreover, the light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day when Yahweh binds up the brokenness (שִׁבְרָה) of his people and heals the wounds inflicted by his blow.
- f. Justice, righteousness, quietness, security, and freedom.
 - a. **Is 32:15-20** 15 ...Until the Spirit (רוּחַ) is poured upon us from on high, the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. 16 Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. 17 And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. 18 My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places. 19 And it will hail when the forest falls down, and the city [of man] will be utterly laid low. 20 Happy are you who sow beside all waters, who let the feet of the ox and the donkey range free.
- g. All the sources of stress solved supernaturally.
 - a. **Is 30:27-28** 27 Behold, the name of Yahweh comes from afar, burning with his anger and in weight of uplifted clouds. His lips are full of fury, and his tongue is like a devouring fire. 28 His breath/Spirit (רוּחַ) is like an overflowing stream that reaches up to the neck, to sift the nations (גֹּוֹיִם) with the sieve of destruction....
 - (2) **Is 31:8-9** 8 And the Assyrian shall fall by a sword not of man, and a sword not of man shall devour him. And he shall flee from the sword, and his young men shall be put to forced labour. 9 His rock shall pass away in terror, and his officers desert the standard in panic, declares Yahweh, whose fire is in Zion and whose furnace is in Jerusalem.
- h. It gives God the opportunity to show up and exalt himself.
 - (1) **Is 31:4-5** 4 For thus Yahweh said to me, As a lion or a young lion growls over his prey, and when a band of shepherds is called out against him he is not terrified by their shouting or daunted at their noise, so Yahweh of hosts will come down to fight on Mount Zion and on its hill. 5 Like birds hovering, so Yahweh of hosts will protect Jerusalem. He will protect and deliver it. He will spare and rescue it.
- i. We've had some amazing God interventions in the lives of church members lately!
 - (1) Ilka
 - (2) Claus
 - (3) Jeff

9. Practical Application.

- a. If anything having to do with Covid is ruining your marriage, you need to stop right now and evaluate your whole framework of viewing the world.
- b. Get your news from a source that doesn't send you down the rabbit hole.
- c. If it's gossip, don't participate.

- d. Be very careful before you send a link to someone. Ask the Lord whether you should just let it go.
- e. Don't watch that video sent to you by your crazy friend.
- f. Delete the Facebook app from your phone or enable two-factor authentication.
- g. Politics is dynamite.
- h. Focus on BLESSing others instead of anything having to do with Covid.

10. Closing Verse.

- a. **Mt 11:25–30** 25 At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; 26 yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27 All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”