

Message Notes:



Isaiah 20-21

Wednesday September 10, 2025



ISAIAH

The Lord Saves

Wednesday Night Bible Study Booklet

People I met tonight & how I can pray for them.

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With the Word Bible Commentary

ISAIAH 20

This brief chapter records two object lessons that the Lord used to try to convince the people not to form unholy alliances.

The first was the defeat of Ashdod by the Assyrians. The people of this Philistine city had depended on Egypt and Ethiopia to help them, but their help failed. Why then should God's people trust Egypt and Ethiopia? Remember, the one thing we learn from history is that we do not learn from history. "It can't happen here!"

The second object lesson was personified by Isaiah the prophet who for three years did not wear his prophetic garb or his sandals. He looked like a prisoner of war, which is what the Egyptians and Ethiopians eventually became (vv. 3–4). God's people did not take it to heart, and eventually they were led off to Babylon.

God uses things we see and hear to help us make the right decisions. Do we really pay attention?

ISAIAH 21

Three pictures help us better understand what is involved in faithful ministry.

The woman in travail (1–4). If you are faithful to your calling, your ministry will not be easy. Isaiah was distressed as he saw what God was doing in the world. He felt like a woman in travail (v. 3); it was very painful for him to "give birth" to his message.

The threshing floor (10). Why would Isaiah be distressed at the fall of the city of Babylon? (This was not the destruction of the city but a temporary takeover by a rival power.) Isaiah had hoped Babylon would stop the advances of Assyria and thus save the Jews from suffering. He saw them being winnowed and crushed by the enemy. He longed for a calm evening of his life (v. 4); instead, he had to carry distressing burdens to the end.

The watchman (5–9, 11–17). While the prophet was anxiously watching so he could warn the people, the nation's leaders were carelessly feasting and thinking only of themselves (v. 5). The watchman sees both night (trouble) and morning (blessing), and that is how it will be until Jesus comes. The most important thing is that the watchman be faithful to warn when danger is coming (Ezek. 25:12–14).

Exert from "With the Word Bible Commentary"

by Warren Weirsbe

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Personal Reflection:

Which verse(s) from tonight's section stood out to you the most? Why?

What is God speaking in this section that grabs your attention? What is it that God is saying in it?

How do you think God is seeking to have you apply what He has shown you in those verses?

For Next Week: Isaiah 22