### Isaiah

## Chapter 30

1The Lord said:  
  
 ‘And woe to you children of apostates…  
 You who’ve looked for direction from others  
 And made treaties that were not by My Spirit.  
 For by this, you have added to your sins!  
  
 2‘You [sent ambassadors] to Egypt  
 And asked for help from their PharaOh…  
 Yes, you sought shelter from Egypt…  
 But, you failed to ask Me!  
  
 3‘So, because you sought PharaOh’s protection,  
 You will come to know shame.  
 And because you’re relying on Egypt,  
 You will also know scorn…  
 4For, the envoys from Tanis are evil.  
  
 5‘You are foolish to labor for others  
 Who won’t bring help or send any aid,  
 While upon you, they heap shame and scorn.’  
  
  
6This is the vision of the four-footed creatures in the desert:  
  
 ‘In difficult times of distress,  
 [There stands] the lion and its cub,  
 As well as asps and the young of winged asps.  
  
 ‘These are the ones who are bearing your wealth  
 On the backs of camels and burros  
 To a nation that will bring you no help,  
 Rather, that will just bring shame and scorn.  
 7For, all that Egypt can send  
 Is waste and [words] that are empty…  
 So the comfort they send is in vain!’  
  
8[Then the Lord told me]:  
  
 ‘You must now sit down and write this…  
 Record these words in the tablet of a scroll.  
 For these are the days and times I’ve appointed…  
 [They’re the things that will happen] in this age:  
  
 9‘You people have resisted my persuasion…  
 You are liars who won’t listen to God’s Law.  
 10You’re the ones who say to the Prophets:  
  
 ‘Don’t bring His pronouncements to us!’  
  
 And to those who see visions, you say:  
  
 ‘Don’t tell us the things that you’ve seen!  
 But, if you must give us a message,  
 Tell us an addictive delusion!  
 11Turn us away from this road…  
 Yes, shift us away from this course,  
 And bring an end to these curses upon IsraEl!’  
  
 12‘It’s because of this, that thus says the Holy One of IsraEl:  
  
 Since you’ve chosen to resist My persuasions  
 And preferred to put hope in a lie…  
 Because you’ve grumbled and failed to have faith,  
 13This is what will happen to you:  
  
 ‘Your sins will be like the walls of a city  
 That fall and lead to a capture…  
 For your downfall is now close at hand.  
  
 14‘And like the breaking of a thin vase,  
 This crash won’t lead to a breaking of parts…  
 Pieces you can find and pick from the coals  
 With which you can hold little water.’  
  
 15‘This is what the Lord Jehovah proclaimed…  
 It’s what IsraEl’s Holy One said:  
  
 ‘You should groan, then turn back and be saved!’  
  
 ‘Think about all of these foolish things  
 In which you’ve been putting your hope…  
 Think of how you chose not to hear,  
 And then, about how weak you became!  
  
 16‘But you say that you will escape  
 From those coming against you on horses…  
 You think that you’ll flee and then say:  
  
 ‘We are very light riders!’  
  
 But those chasing you will be faster!  
  
 17‘For, thousands will flee at the voice of one man,  
 And ten thousand will flee at the voices of five.  
 So, you will be left all alone  
 Like a pole on top of a mountain,  
 Or a banner flying high on a hill.  
  
 18‘Then, once again, you’ll [turn back] to God  
 And [hope] that He will feel pity.  
 And because of this; he will show mercy upon you,  
 Since your judge is Jehovah, your God.  
  
 ‘Blest are those who stick close to Him;  
 19For the holy will live upon Zion once more!  
  
 ‘JeruSalem will cry, ‘Show mercy on me!’  
 And He will show mercy upon her.  
 For, when He hears the sounds of your cries,  
 Once more, He’ll pay attention to you.  
  
 20‘Then Jehovah will provide you with water and bread,  
 And those who misled you will no longer be.  
 You’ll remember those who tried to mislead you,  
 21And those who followed to trick you…  
 Those who said, ‘This is the way you should go…  
 Yes, you should go this way or that!’  
  
 22‘Then, you’ll get rid of your silver-plated idols,  
 As well as those who are gilded with gold,  
 And crush them into fine powder,  
 Then toss it into the wind.  
 You’ll reject them like a [menstruation rag],  
 And throw them away like manure.  
  
 23‘Then, rain will fall on your ground to sprout seeds…  
 There’ll be plenty of bread and fat in your land.  
 Your cattle will graze in large fertile fields,  
 24And your bulls will work the ground and eat straw,  
 As you prepare to harvest the barley.  
  
 25‘And in that day;  
 After many people have been destroyed  
 And the towers have all been knocked down;  
 Water will flow from the mountains and hills.  
  
 26‘Then the moon will be as bright as the sun,  
 And the sun will be seven times brighter,  
 In that day when Jehovah brings healing  
 To His people who’ve been broken down,  
 There’ll be an end to the grief of disaster.  
  
 27‘{Look!} Then, after a while, the Name of the Lord  
 Will arrive in glory and in burning rage…  
 For, the omens from His lips are omens of rage,  
 And the flames of His rage are consuming!  
  
 28‘His Breath is like water that races through valleys,  
 Then comes to the neck and divides.  
 So, for their addictions to delusions,  
 He will disturb all the nations  
 And [allow] their delusions to trap them.  
  
 29‘Then, whenever you enter [God’s] Holy Place,  
 You’ll do so thereafter in joy…  
 As though it were a great holiday!  
 And as you do this, you’ll be happy…  
 Singing songs as you travel to the Mountain of [God]!  
  
 30‘Yes you’ll sing to Jehovah with the glory of your voice;  
 For by His arm, He can send both His anger and rage…  
 Like lightning, He violently strikes,  
 And as flames [of fire], He can consume…  
 Like rain and hail being driven by storms.  
  
 31‘By the voice of Jehovah, Assyria will fall…  
 He’ll strike and bring calamity to them.  
 32For, He is always nearby  
 To aid those who put faith in Him…  
 Those playing their harps and shaking tambourines.  
  
 ‘He’ll wage war with those who revolt…  
 33But, after some days, He’ll let them return.  
 For, He’s prepared His Kingdom for them.  
  
 ‘As a ravine that is very deep  
 And as piles of wood near a fire,  
 Is the rage of Jehovah…  
 Like a ravine that is burning with sulfur!’