### Isaiah

## Chapter 9

1‘Drink this first and fast… Do it quickly,  
 O lands of ZebuLun and NaphTali…  
 You on the coasts and the JorDan’s east shore,  
 And you, O Galilee of the gentiles!  
  
 2‘The people who were traveling in darkness  
 Then saw a [very] bright light.  
 For a light will then shine upon those  
 Who live in the place of the shadow of death.  
  
 3‘To a time of joy, He will lead them,  
 And they’ll all be as happy before Him  
 As those who take joy in the harvest,  
 Or as those who’re dividing up loot.  
 4For they’ll not be wearing a yoke anymore,  
 Nor [will they feel] the whip on their backs.  
  
 ‘He’ll destroy the [whip] of all those who use it  
 As He did in the days of MidiAn’s war.  
 5Then, those who did this must pay for the clothes  
 That they, through treachery, have taken;  
 For the people will [demand] the return of their clothes,  
 Even if they have been scorched!  
  
 6‘Because a child has been born for us,  
 And for us, a son has been given;  
 Upon his shoulders, that authority came,  
 And by the name Great Councel’s Messenger, he is called.  
 Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace [spurious words]  
  
 ‘Then, to this prince, I’ll bring peace and good health;  
 7And from the throne of David, his rule will be great.  
 There will be no end to his peace,  
 For his kingdom will be founded on justice and judgments  
 Both now and into the age…  
 Which will come through the zeal of Jehovah of Armies.  
  
 8‘But now, upon IsraEl and Jacob,  
 Jehovah is just sending death.  
 9And all the peoples of Ephraim  
 (Those with haughty and insolent hearts  
 Who within Samaria, have settled),  
 Will realize this and then say:  
  
 10Since all our bricks have now fallen,  
 Please come and help us shape stones;  
 Then we’ll cut down some cedars and sycamore trees,  
 And we’ll build ourselves a great tower.  
  
 11‘But, God will knock down all those  
 Who will come against Zion and Him.  
 He’ll wipe all His enemies away…  
 12The Syrians from where the sun dawns  
 To the Greeks in the place where it sets…  
 Those who’ve swallowed IsraEl down with their mouths.  
  
 ‘But, this won’t bring an end to His rage;  
 For His hand will still be held high…  
 13Because His people refused to repent  
 Or to search for Jehovah of Armies  
 Until [the day] they were struck.  
 14For the Lord will remove the head and the tail…  
 All of IsraEl’s small and great in one day.  
  
 15‘Their head is the elders and highly regarded,  
 And the prophets (those teaching lawless ways) are the tail.  
 16They’re the ones who say, ‘These people are blest,’  
 And mislead them to swallow them down.  
  
 17‘Yes, it is because of these things  
 That God won’t show favor upon their young men,  
 Nor will He show mercy on their orphans or widows…  
 Because they’re all lawless and wicked,  
 And every mouth is unrighteous.  
 Yet, none of these things will turn back His rage,  
 For His hand will still be raised high.  
  
 18‘Then the lawless will be burned as in fire…  
 They’ll be devoured like flames through dry grass…  
 They’ll be burned like thickets in the woods,  
 And consumed like hay in the hills.  
  
 19‘Because of Jehovah’s anger and rage,  
 All of their land will be burned,  
 And its people will be as those burned in fire;  
 For a man won’t show mercy to even his brother.  
  
 20‘Then they’ll look at their right hands in hunger,  
 And they will eat their left [arms]…  
 But the flesh of their arms will not fill them.  
  
 21‘ManasSeh will gnaw upon Ephraim,  
 And Ephraim will chew on ManasSeh…  
 Then together, they’ll come against Judah.  
 Yet, none of these things will turn back [God’s] rage,  
 For His arm will still be held high.’